

Hafa Adai!

A Liberation Day motorcade on Sunday? **PAGE 3**

Plaintiffs want over \$5 million worth of IPI assets auctioned. **PAGE 9**

\$1

# Saipan Tribune

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## CPA: We're ready

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**  
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Ports Authority assures that it is ready for the influx of visitors expected to enter the CNMI now that the South Korea travel bubble has been approved for July.

According to Kimberlyn King-Hinds, Commonwealth Ports Authority board chair, CPA is ready and excited for the CNMI's first step into reviving its tourism industry.

"This is a necessary step for the CNMI to revive the tourism industry. The economy

has to be our main focus moving forward and this travel bubble with Korea is just the beginning. CPA is ready," she said.

One of the biggest, most exciting changes in time for the travel bubble, King-Hinds

See CPA on **Page 4**

## 'Multi-Island Integrated Destination' approach to tourism will unite and strengthen the Marianas

### TOGETHER, WE CAN

By **MIKE SABLAN**  
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Mike Sablan is vice president of Triple J Enterprises, Inc. and chairperson of the Domestic Policy and Recovery Committee of the Governor's Council of Economic Advisers. As an advisory council for Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios, the GCEA's mission is to improve the quality of life in the Marianas for all residents.



This past week, the Governor's Council of Economic Advisers made a presentation on Tinian that further examines the potential of marketing the Marianas as a "Multi-Island Integrated Destination."

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres led the discussion as we shared our commissioned report with Tinian Mayor Edwin Aldan,

See MULTI-ISLAND on **Page 4**

## IN PROBE ON TORRES' EXPENDITURES Cop says she did not sign NDA



Police officer Jomalyn S. Gelacio is sworn in prior to testifying yesterday before the House Judiciary and Governmental Operations Committee. The JGO Committee chaired by Rep. Celina R. Babauta (D-Saipan) is investigating Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' expenditures.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
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REPORTER

Police officer Jomalyn S. Gelacio told the House Judiciary and Governmental Operations Committee during the start of its investigation into Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' expenditures yesterday that she was shown a non-disclosure agreement, but that she did not sign it and that she was not pressured to sign the document.

» **Witness says Torres, first lady never asked her to do anything illegal**

The officer testified that her supervisor at the Department of Public Safety showed her a copy of the NDA and also told the committee that Ralph DLG Torres and first lady Diann Torres never asked her to do illegal acts during her travels with them when she was assigned as personal security detail for Diann Torres

for a year.

See COP on **Page 4**

### COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

#### LEGEND:

- Red: Least safe
- Orange
- Yellow
- Blue
- Green: Safest

Source: Office of the Governor

## DFEMS, Mendiola oppose reinstating nine firefighters

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**  
kimberly\_esmores@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services and its head, Commissioner Dennis Mendiola, claim that the nine firefighters who were terminated for refusing to get vaccinated are not entitled to a preliminary injunction that would reinstate them as firefighters while their lawsuit is ongoing.

The department, through assistant attorney general Abbi Novotny, said in their filed opposition that the plaintiffs

See DFEMS on **Page 4**

### AT A GLANCE

As of 7:44pm, July 1, 2021

#### VACCINATIONS IN THE CNMI

Eligible Population  
Fully Vaccinated: **64.1%**

| Pfizer/BioNTech   |        |
|-------------------|--------|
| Initiated:        | 25,192 |
| Fully Vaccinated: | 22,915 |
| Moderna           |        |
| Initiated:        | 4,111  |
| Fully Vaccinated: | 3,841  |
| Janssen           |        |
| Fully vaccinated: | 432    |

| GUAM                                | OLD   | NEW | TOTAL   |
|-------------------------------------|-------|-----|---------|
| Positive                            | 8,357 | 9   | 8,366   |
| Recovered                           | 8,128 | 7   | 8,135   |
| Active                              | 82    | 9   | 91      |
| Deaths                              | 140   | 0   | 140     |
| Cumulative Number of Persons Tested |       |     | 179,132 |

| SAIPAN                                 | OLD | NEW | TOTAL   |
|--|-----|-----|---------|
| Positive                               | 183 | 0   | 183     |
| Traced via Travel Screening            | 147 | 0   | 147     |
| Traced via Community Screening         | 36  | 0   | 36      |
| Deaths                                 | 2   | 0   | 2       |
| Cumulative Number of Persons Tested    |     |     | 33,243* |
| Days since last community transmission |     |     | 100     |

\*Total count includes the number of persons tested on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. With guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CHCC has opted not to report active and recovered cases.

Source: Joint Information Center - Guam, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.

### INSIDE



#### LOCAL

A man who is wanted by police for nearly a week was arrested with an alleged accomplice.

**PAGE 2**



#### OPINION

Brief Tales of Blind Justice Scales: Find more 4th of July and Independence Day poems inside..

**PAGE 11**



#### SUPPLEMENT

Today's issue comes with a special supplement section that celebrates the CNMI's Level Green.

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SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.



**GOT A NEWS TIP?**

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# Local

## Man who eluded police is caught

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA  
kimberly\_bautista@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

A man who was wanted by police for nearly a week was arrested last Tuesday, along with his accomplice who is now being charged as an accessory to the crime.

On June 29, Tuesday, The Department of Public Safety received a tip from an unknown caller about the whereabouts of Roland Kaipat, a man who has been wanted by police since June 23.

According to the anonymous tip, Kaipat, who is

facing charges of assault and battery and domestic violence, was seen driving around at about 11am in the village of Chalan Piao in a dark-colored Toyota Corolla.



**Kaipat**

Upon spotting the vehicle that same day, police conducted a violator stop. As police approached the vehicle, they reportedly saw Kaipat in the driver's side, along with a female seated in the passenger side, later identified to be Casilda I. Kaipat.

Both individuals were arrested on the spot and were brought to Kanoa Resort for clearance before being transferred to the Department of Corrections where they were booked and

detained.

Kaipat was arrested pursuant to an existing arrest warrant issued by the court on June 23. Casilda I. Kaipat was arrested and charged as an accessory.

Last June 23, the court issued an arrest warrant for Roland Kaipat, with bail set at \$2,500. A warrant for his arrest was issued following a disturbance call at an apartment complex in the village of San Antonio on June 21. At the scene, police observed a female with bruises on her body. Follow-up investigations revealed that the victim had been hit by Kaipat on June 8, 2021.

According to court documents, Kaipat allegedly pulled the victim's hair and dragged her across the floor during a heated argument.

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## A LibDay motorcade on Sunday?

By JOSHUA SANTOS  
joshua\_santos@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Veterans of Foreign Wars Saipan Post 3457, the Commonwealth Bureau of Military Affairs, and other military organizations have teamed up to possibly host its own July 4 motorcade, and invites the community to watch and participate in the motorcade. The motorcade is set to begin at the Garapan Fishing Base at 9am this Sunday.

In a text message from Brad Ruzala—who is District VI commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Pacific Areas—he said Thursday that the motorcade's vehicles will begin gathering at the Garapan Fishing Base at 8:30am and the motorcade itself will begin at 9am. The motorcade will travel south through Saipan's main roads, circle back to Beach Road, and return to Garapan Fishing Base approximately two hours later.

In an email Thursday from special assistant for military affairs Glenna Sakisat Palacios, she said the CBMA held a get-together a few weeks ago to discuss the possibility of a LibDay motorcade. Present at the meeting were representatives of

VFW, CBMA, and Maj. Josh Kettenton, who is the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command Liaison Officer for the CNMI.

For now, there is no definite number as to how many vehicles will be a part of the motorcade. As such, Palacios looks forward to the community taking part in the proposed event with vehicles decorated with Liberation Day-related trappings.

Palacios also said the pandemic has undoubtedly proven to be a challenge in regards to Liberation Day festivities, but believes that this weekend will remain a time for the community to celebrate, whether it be through family get-togethers, barbecues, or picnics. She also spoke on how parades are typically a major part of Liberation Day festivities throughout the United States, and believes that, in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, hosting a motorcade will be an opportunity for the community to safely celebrate the holiday.

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and women dedicated to preserving it.

# HAPPY LIBERATION Day!



**David M. Apatang**  
Mayor of Saipan and staff





## COP

From Page 1

When asked whether she witnessed Ralph DLG Torres and Diann Torres commit any illegal acts while she was on duty, Gelacio replied, “Not to my knowledge.”

Gelacio appeared at the hearing with a lawyer, Anthony Aguon.

When *Saipan Tribune* left the House chamber at 4:45pm, the officer was still testifying. She completed her testimony yesterday,

The hearing, which is being led by committee chair Rep. Celina R. Babauta (D-Saipan), will continue today, Friday, at 1:30pm.

Gelacio was the first witness to testify before the committee, which is looking into Torres’ expenditures.

Department of Finance’s finance and accounting director Bernadita C. Palacios, who appeared yesterday morning with Matthew Gregory as her lawyer, was told to return since Gelacio would be called first to testify.

Gelacio said it was lawyer Kimberly King-Hinds who assisted her in preparing a letter that she later delivered to the JGO a day before the original June 23 hearing date. She said King-Hinds instructed her to deliver the letter.

Gelacio, Palacios, and special assistant for administration Mathilda A. Rosario did not show up at the JGO Committee’s hearing last June 23, and instead requested for via identical but separate letters, Babauta to issue subpoenas that would compel their presence at the hearing. The three also invoked their right to have a lawyer present with them at the hearing.

When asked how she became a personal security detail for Diann Torres, the officer said a colleague

asked her if she’s interested in the assignment. She said she has no idea why she was later removed from that assignment.

Aguon’s role as Gelacio’s lawyer also raised some questions at the hearing and, at some point, provoked questions of what could be asked of Gelacios, after Aguon pointed out that one questions was beyond the scope of the subpoena.

When Gelacio was asked as to her former employer, Aguon objected, insisting that it’s not related to the subpoena and that the subpoena that brought her to the hearing was that she could talk about travels performed on behalf of the CNMI government.

Babauta told Aguon that he’s at the hearing as an adviser to Gelacio and that the questions are directed to the officer as a witness.

Rep. Christina E. Sablan (D-Saipan) said Aguon is not a witness and that the questions are directed to the witness and that she has to answer the questions.

Babauta reminded Aguon that the questions are directed to the witness and that he will have to be recognized in order to speak to raise any objections. Babauta said it is the prerogative of the committee to recognize Aguon for any objections or any concerns he may have.

Aguon asked if he could respond, but Babauta denied and asked Rep. Richard Lizama (D-Saipan) to continue questioning the witness.

Aguon said this is one of the issues they brought up with the House’s counsel. “There’s no written rules and regulations on how to proceed with this committee...” Aguon said.

Babauta said they have the constitutional and statutory authority to conduct this investigation, and that they have the House rule that they follow.

Aguon said it is his duty as an at-

torney for Gelacio to preserve her constitutional rights.

Sablan then accused Aguon of disrupting the proceeding.

Babauta then asked Lizama to continue his question.

In response to Rep. Vicente Camacho’s (D-Saipan) question, Gelacio said she does not believe that her duty as PSD includes doing shopping for Diann Torres. She, however, admitted that she would drop to school and pick up from school the first couple’s children. The officer denied she was babysitting the children.

In response to Rep. Edwin K. Propst (D-Saipan) question about the non-disclosure agreement, Gelacio said she was aware of that form, but that she did not sign it.

She said her supervisor showed her the document but that she was not pressured to sign it. She said she does not know how that non-disclosure agreement came about.

She said Ralph DLG Torres and Diann Torres or anybody did not ask her or influence her about her testimony. She said no one was threatening or coercing her from testifying.

Gelacio said the OAG declined to provide counsel for her. She does not know if the OAG authorized DPS to retain counsel for her. It was learned that it was DPS that is paying for Aguon’s services.

She said King-Hinds assisted her to prepare the letter to JGO because Aguon was off-island at the time.

Gelacio said she was assigned for one year as PSD for Diann Torres in 2019.

Gelacio also testified about her trip with Diann Torres in the Philippines, where the first lady bought items for her foundation and visited her mother in the hospital.

Gelacio said she assisted Diann Torres with her foundation by loading some equipment, office supplies,

boxes of shirts, and other items. She said she believes these were part of her duties.

Gelacio testified about her boat trip to Guam in June 2018 where she supposed to meet Diann Torres. She said she could not remember who were with her in that boat.

Gelacio also testified about the first couple’s trip to Washington, D.C., where they attended several func-

tions. She said there were two PSD for Diann Torres and two other PSDs for the governor in that trip. She said the PSDs were all in economy class and that she had no knowledge whether the governor and the first lady were in business class.

*Saipan Tribune* will publish this Monday more details about Gelacio’s testimony on the Guam and Washington, D.C. trips.

## CPA

From Page 1

said, will be the processing for international arrivals, thanks to the Simplified Arrival process of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

“We are especially excited about the implementation of the Simplified Arrival process, which has been recently expanded to [the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport] by U.S. Customs and Border Protection, in partnership with CPA, which we hope will streamline and improve processing for international arrivals in time for this travel bubble,” she said.

“I want to thank CBP CNMI Ports director Jeff Hofschneider for staying on top of this opportunity and making it happen so that we can welcome our guests in a more efficient fashion,” King-Hinds added.

According to *Saipan Tribune* archives, Simplified Arrival is an enhanced international arrival process that uses facial biometrics to automate the manual document checks that are already required for admission into the United States. This process provides travelers with a touchless process that further secures and streamlines international arrivals while fulfilling a longstanding con-

gressional mandate to biometrically record the entry and exit of non-U.S. citizens.

Simplified Arrival only uses the biometric facial comparison process at a time and place where travelers are already required by law to verify their identity by presenting a travel document. When travelers arrive at the Saipan airport on an international flight, they will pause for a photo at the primary inspection point. CBP’s biometric facial comparison process will compare the new photo of the traveler to a small gallery of high-quality images that the traveler has already provided to the government, such as passport and visa photos. In addition, foreign travelers who have traveled to the U.S. previously may no longer need to provide fingerprints as their identity will be confirmed through the touchless facial comparison process.

On June 30, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres on behalf of the CNMI and Vice Minister Seong-Kyu Hwang of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport of the Republic of Korea, signed the travel bubble agreement that facilitates the safe resumption of air travel between the two countries during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The travel bubble took effect yesterday, July 1.

## DFEMS

From Page 1

are not entitled to a preliminary injunction because they have shown neither a violation of their constitutional rights nor that they will suffer irreparable harm in the absence of an injunction.

According to Novotny, the court should deny the plaintiffs’ motion for a preliminary injunction because they have not adequately established each of the elements they must plead to show that they are entitled to a preliminary injunction.

She explained that injunctive relief requires certain factors that must be examined when a trial court determines whether to grant a preliminary injunction.

The factors include whether the plaintiffs have a strong likelihood of success on the merits, the level of the threat of irreparable harm to the plaintiff if the relief is not granted, the balance between the harm the plaintiff will face if the injunction is denied and the harm the defendant will face if the injunction is granted, and any effect the injunction may have on the public interest.

However, Novotny claims that the plaintiffs’ equal protection claims are unlikely to succeed because they have not shown that they are members of a suspect class nor that a fundamental right has been burdened.

In addition, the firefighters’ due process claim fails because they do not have a legitimate claim to continued employment under the Civil Services Personnel Regulations.

Lastly, the government claims that the plaintiffs’ allegations fail to show irreparable harm, balance of harm in their favor, or that the public interest weighs in their favor.

“There is no debate that the defendants have the responsibility to continue to keep members of the public safe from COVID-19 by not exposing them to unvaccinated firefighters that are legally obligated to respond to any emergency. Because plaintiffs are unlikely to succeed on the merits of their case and the defendant has the responsibility to protect the public, there can be no argument that the balance of harms caused by a preliminary injunction weighs in favor of defendant,” she said.

According to *Saipan Tribune* archives, Joseph Horey, lawyer to the nine firefighters, claims that his clients have a strong likelihood of success on the merits, particularly on the issues of individual privacy and procedural due process because the law speaks clearly and emphatically in their favor.

Horey said his clients are suffering irreparable harm in the denial of their constitutional rights, and it is in the public interest that these rights not be infringed.

## MULTI-ISLAND

From Page 1

Rota Mayor Efraim Atalig, House Speaker Edmund Villagomez, Senate President Jude Hofschneider and senators from the 22<sup>nd</sup> Legislature, and stakeholders who can help make this initiative a reality. We primarily focused on Tinian’s opportunities to attract tourists and revive its tourism economy.

For Tinian to thrive under the Marianas’ Multi-Island Integrated Destination plan, it has to continue to generate interest in travel to the island through the creation and hosting of innovative festivals. The Beef, Beer, and Band Festival on July 24 is a great start, and I hope that residents on Rota and Saipan are already making plans to attend.

Rota, Saipan, and the Northern Islands were subjected to the same feasibility and sustainability study and were presented with their unique opportunities. Each island can capitalize on its unique sense of place to guide its next steps in developing events, sites, and attractions to help in its economic recovery. For example, Tinian should embrace its historic and cultural identity while transforming and protecting its historic sites. Paired with regular festivals, they

have the potential to attract repeat international and domestic visitors.

Saipan’s recommendation included branding and upgrading resorts and revitalizing facilities as the center of the tourism and business activities in the Marianas. Rota and the Northern Islands, meanwhile, are geared toward eco-tourism to attract nature-inclined travelers, which continues to grow due to the health crisis across the globe.

All islands will have to take different approaches to revive their respective tourism economies. However, each has abundant natural resources that are the envy of overdeveloped destinations and are the Marianas’ biggest advantage. Travelers’ interests have shifted and demand for nature-centered destinations is strong. Tourists are now relishing a stroll in uncrowded beaches or a hike on secluded mountain trails to avoid crowds as the threat of COVID-19 remains.

To quote Darlena Zhai, the respected hospitality and travel consultant who authored the study, “The natural setting is there for the Marianas. Its nature is amazing and just needs to be enhanced to capture the demand with a better product.”

With Tinian now on board with the GCEA’s Public Private Partnership campaign, we now have the

commitment of Rota and Tinian in transforming destination sites and villages facilities—a critical step toward getting the Marianas in top shape for visitors wanting to experience the beauty of a vastly improved Marianas post-pandemic.

As we prepare to welcome visitors and collaborate in reviving our economy, we need to continue our work as partners, clean and maintain our sites, bring transformational projects into the heart of the villages, and support game-changing initiatives, such as universal garbage collection, Hafa Adai & Tirow Pledge, economic diversification, and infrastructure improvements.

These campaigns have to be acted upon with a sense of urgency now that we have the financial resources from the ARPA funds, typhoon relief grants, and others to make them happen. The back-to-back disasters and the pandemic may have crippled our economy, but they are also giving us the rare opportunity to recover stronger and in a position to provide a better quality of life for our residents.

For more information, visit the GCEA at [cnmieconomy.com](http://cnmieconomy.com), on Facebook and Instagram (@cnmigov.economy), or contact them at [gceacnmi@gmail.com](mailto:gceacnmi@gmail.com).



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It is the love of country that has lighted and that keeps  
glowing the hol fire of patriotism.

— J. Horace McFarland

## HAPPY LIBERATION DAY



From the Office of Senate President  
**Jude Untalan Hofschneider**  
and the Members of the 22nd Senate  
Commonwealth Legislature and staff



May this day be  
a symbol of prosperity,  
joy, and happiness to all.

# Happy Liberation Day!

From the management and staff of



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Foundation**

## BOE authority to set PSS instructional time is clarified in new law

Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres has signed into law a Senate bill that clarifies that the State Board of Education has the authority to establish and amend the minimum instructional time for the Public School System.

Torres informed the Legislature that he has signed Senate Bill 22-21 into Public Law 22-02.

Senate President Jude U. Hofschneider is the author of the legislation.

The new law repeals and re-enacts a Commonwealth Code to clarify that the BOE has the authority to establish, maintain, amend or modify, as necessary, the instructional calendar or minimum instructional time for kindergarten, elementary school, middle school, and high school students at PSS in order to improve student overall performance and achievement.

With the signing of the bill

into law, BOE shall establish and maintain within each school year an instructional calendar of no less than 180 days of instruction for students from kindergarten through the 12<sup>th</sup> grade, exclusive of weekends, holidays, and emergency school closings authorized by the PSS commissioner, provided that the Board of Education, in consultation with the commissioner, may reduce the instructional calendar applicable to each school, in the event of an emergency declaration or natural disaster.

The Senate committee's report determined that, without an immediate amendment to rectify the provisions of Public Law 20-48, PSS will continue to face complications in resolving the educational needs of the students in line with the guidance and support of its federal partners. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

## PUBLIC NOTICE



This is to inform the public that Marlyn P. Pascual is no longer connected with FM Corporation dba FM Manpower effective July 2nd, 2021.

Any transaction made or entered by her after the above-mentioned date will no longer be honored by the company.

For any questions or concerns,  
please call our office at Tel.234-4000.



**COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS ISLANDS  
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## PUBLIC NOTICE

This Notice is paid by NMHC with HUD funds  
07/02/2021

### Final Notice and Public Explanation of a Proposed Activity in a 100-Year Flood Plain

This is to give notice that the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC), as the Responsible Entity under Part 58, has conducted an evaluation as required by Executive Order 11988, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C -Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Wetlands Protection, to determine the potential effect that its activity in the floodplain will have on the human environment for the Road Improvement Project on Route 33, Beach Road, Saipan. The activity is funded through the Community Development Block Grant -Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) program grant number B-19-DV-69-0001 & B-19-DV-69-0002.

The proposed activity consist of regrading and resurfacing of the existing road and repair of existing surface drainage appurtenances such as curb/gutter and swales will streamline flow and migration of runoff properly. The improvement will ensure road safety and enhance floodplain development by ensuring no potential standing water is retained and that the rate of runoff discharge to seawater is minimized and dispersed. This activity is also National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) compliant.

The public may view the information and provide comments regarding the proposed activity by visiting the NMHC website at [www.nmhc.gov.net](http://www.nmhc.gov.net) by clicking on the public notice/announcement tab and selecting the Environmental Review Records or you may visit the NMHC CDBG-DR website at <https://www.cnmi-cdbgdr.com>.

The NMHC has reevaluated the alternatives of the road improvement project on Route 33, Beach Road Saipan, and has determined that it has no practicable alternative. Environmental files that document compliance with steps 3 through 6 of Executive Order 11988, are available for public inspection and review online at <https://www.cnmi-cdbgdr.com> or <https://www.nmhc.gov.net>. You may also visit our office located in Garapan, Saipan.

The NMHC has published online the 8-step decision making process for projects in the floodplain. The public may access and review the determination of no significant impact for the road improvement project on Route 33, Beach Road, Saipan at <https://www.cnmi-cdbgdr.com> or <https://www.nmhc.gov.net> or you may visit our office located in Garapan, Saipan.

Written comments shall be submitted on or before July 12, 2021, no later than 4:00 p.m. Comments may be submitted from the following submission methods: email at [nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp](mailto:nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp); or facsimile to (670)234-9021; or hand deliver to the NMHC Central Office located in Garapan, Saipan. Attention: CDBG-DR Project Team

/s/  
Ralph DLG. Torres, Governor, CNMI





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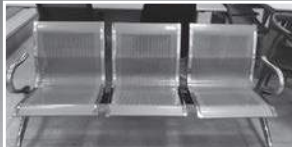
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## Korea travel agencies laud NMI's safety and cleanliness

Major South Korean travel agencies are lauding the safety measures and cleanliness of the CNMI as the destination launched a travel bubble with the Republic of Korea that became effective yesterday, July 1, 2021.

A delegation from the CNMI led by Gov. Ralph DLG Torres met Wednesday with company executives from Korea's three largest travel tour companies: HanaTour, Mode Tour, and Yellow Balloon Tour. Torres was joined by representatives of the

CNMI COVID-19 Task Force, members of the Governor's Council of Economic Advisers and the Marianas Visitors Authority at those meetings.

### HanaTour meeting

The CNMI's hard work in

beautifying our islands was recognized by HanaTour's introduction when they described the CNMI as "Clean, Safe and Romantic!" During the meeting, the HanaTour executive team was led by Co-CEO Jim-Kook Kim and Co-CEO Mi-Sun Song. They were very enthusiastic and excited to help

boost the tourist population traveling to the CNMI because they consider the CNMI as "the cleanest and safest destination in the world."

HanaTour is the largest tour travel company in Korea.

### Mode Tour meeting

The meeting with the Mode Tour team was led by CEO Intea Yu, who told Torres during the meeting that they were extremely impressed with his leadership in handling the COVID-19 pandemic and overcoming the challenges facing the CNMI.

He recognized the governor's hard work and committed that he and the entire Mode Tour team will work just as hard to promote the CNMI as a preferred destination.

The two delegations discussed the challenges and how to overcome them and committed to working together to ensure the success of the CNMI Tourism Resumption Investment Program, or TRIP.

### Yellow Balloon Tour

Song Seokwon, Yellow Balloon Tour's senior management director, and his executive team were excited to meet Torres and appreciated his leadership in bringing the CNMI delegation to meet with Yellow Balloon's Executive Team. Yellow Balloons' Team was excited to hear about the TRIP program and was optimistic about their success in selling tour packages to the CNMI. Pre-COVID, Yellow Balloon holds the record for the highest sales of travel tours to the CNMI.

In 2019, almost 250,000 Korean tourists visited the CNMI and these three companies collectively represents 40% of the total outbound travelers from Korea. The positive reviews received by the CNMI delegation about the condition of the islands are a testament to Torres' leadership, the combined efforts of the Governor's Economic Council, and the COVID 19 Task Force's effective steps to protect the CNMI community against COVID-19. (PR)

### COMMUNITY BRIEFS

#### NMPASI closed in the afternoon today

The Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems, Inc. would like inform the public that our office will be closed from 12pm to 5pm today, July 2, 2021, for Professional Development. We will resume regular business hours on Tuesday, July 6, 2021. (PR)

#### MCS campus closed on Monday

In observance of Fourth of July, the Mount Carmel School campus will be closed on Monday, July 5, 2021. The campus will reopen on Tuesday, July 6, 2021, following the school's summer hours. For more information, visit [www.mountcarmelsaipan.com](http://www.mountcarmelsaipan.com). (PR)

From the management and staff of

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From the staff and management



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## IN SUIT FILED BY SEVEN WORKERS Plaintiffs want over \$5 million worth of IPI assets auctioned

The seven construction workers who are suing Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC over labor violations and human trafficking have asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to allow them to auction off IPI assets to satisfy a \$5 million-plus judgment.

The plaintiffs, through New York-based lawyer Aaron Halegua, filed an application for writ of execution on IPI's

property in the amount of \$5,430,595.58 last Wednesday.

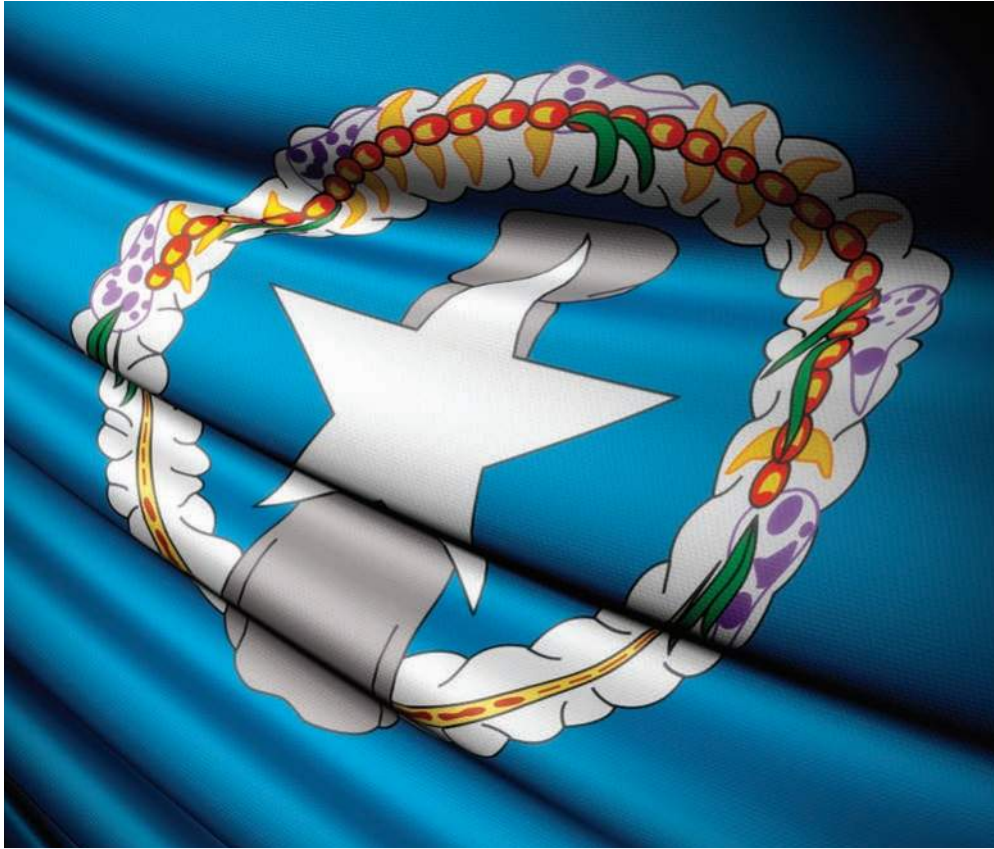
The list of IPI assets include computer hardware, furniture and equipment, motor vehicles, casino gaming machines, and two of IPI's crystal dragons.

In a declaration by Frances Mafnas, former IPI treasury director for IPI, dated Dec. 9, 2020, IPI's computer hardware is estimated to be at around \$692,404.47, its furniture and

equipment is estimated at around \$2,348,230.40, IPI's motor vehicles hold a combined value of \$1,347,547.03, and its casino gaming machines are valued at around \$7,042,321.91.

Back on May 26, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona Manglona entered a default judgment in favor of the seven workers in the amount of \$5,430,595.58 plus post-judgment interest and attorneys' fees against IPI.

To date, IPI has yet to make a single payment to the plaintiffs. *(Kimberly B. Esmores)*



## Happy Liberation Day!

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May the flag of our country fly higher and  
higher each year as we mark the anniversary  
of our independence.

HAPPY  
*Liberation*  
Day



FROM THE OFFICE & STAFF OF  
CONGRESSMAN  
IVAN A. BLANCO





# Opinion

Hafa Adail

## Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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### EDITORIAL

## In transgender case, justices choose compassion over hard-right politics

Only two of the nine U.S. Supreme Court justices said they would have been willing to hear arguments in a case involving a Virginia school district's effort to reinstate a ban on transgender students using bathrooms other than the gender the student was assigned at birth. That means the vast majority, including conservative justices nominated by President Donald Trump, sees this as a non-issue despite years of efforts by the Trump administration and conservative activists to whip up public hysteria over it.

That's a good sign for the return of common sense and simple human compassion after four years in which transgender issues were weaponized by the right and portrayed as a threat to the moral core of the nation. No, the American way of life is not under threat because one transgender boy asks to use the boys' bathroom.

Then-student Gavin Grimm asked to use the boy's bathroom at his high school to conform to his gender identity.

The cruel reality of high school is that youths who show themselves to be different in any way are perceived by the less compassionate among their peers as being fair game for ridicule and bullying. Grimm was brave enough, having been assigned as female at birth but medically diagnosed at age 15 as having gender dysphoria, to have demanded full access to the boys' bathroom, knowing full well what such a visit could have entailed.

That was back in 2014. The school principal agreed, and Grimm was able to use the bathroom of his choice for two months before angry parents revolted. The school board in December 2014 officially banned him from the boys' room. The school tried to skirt controversy by asking Grimm to use a private bathroom—including the nurse's room—which effectively singled him out for unwanted attention rather than helping him blend in with other students.

Grimm again displayed extraordinary bravery by taking the school district to court, arguing successfully through the full appeals process that the school district had violated his constitutional equal protection rights.

"Being forced to use the nurse's room, a private bathroom and the girls' room was humiliating for me, and having to go to out-of-the-way bathrooms severely interfered with my education," Grimm stated Monday. "Trans youth deserve to use the bathroom in peace without being humiliated and stigmatized by their own school boards and elected officials."

Only Justices Clarence Thomas and Samuel Alito indicated a willingness to hear the case. The rest, including three conservatives appointed by Trump, presented no willingness to take up the lower appeals panel's ruling in Grimm's favor.

Opponents of transgender bathroom access no doubt will try again. It'll take more brave young people like Grimm, willing to risk all to defend their rights and fight intolerance.

**St. Louis Post-Dispatch**



## America's empathy problem — and what to do about

By Herb Cromwell  
THE BALTIMORE SUN

*"Thank you for seeing me  
I feel so less lonely  
Thank you for getting me  
I'm healed by your empathy"*  
— Alanis Morissette, "Empathy"

A dictionary definition of empathy is the ability to understand and share the feelings of another. It's not the same as sympathy. As memoirist Rebecca O'Donnell puts it, "Empathy is walking a mile in somebody else's moccasins. Sympathy is being sorry their feet hurt."

If Americans seem less empathetic that they used to be, the scientific community says that feeling has validity. A 2010 University of Michigan study found that college students then were 40% less empathetic than their counterparts of 1980s and '90s, as measured by standardized tests of this personality trait. And it seems to have only gotten worse since then.

In 2011, CNN's Wolf Blitzer asked presidential candidate Ron Paul what should happen to a 30-year old man who chose not to buy health insurance and then became seriously ill. "Are you saying society should just let him die?" Blitzer asked. The debate crowd "erupted in cheers and whoops of 'Yeah,'" Slate reported.

Roughly a decade later, in September 2020, after the shooting of two Los Angeles sheriff's deputies, a crowd gathered outside the treating hospital shouting "we hope they die" as they tried to block the hospital's emergency exits, according to the Los Angeles Times. That same month, "The U.S. has an Empathy Deficit" was the headline of an opinion piece in the September 2020 Scientific American.

In America today, immigrants are demonized. Asian Americans are assaulted. Capitol police are beaten with flagpoles. Unarmed African Americans are shot and suffocated by police. Votes are suppressed. Mass shootings take lives regularly.

Even mask wearing amid COVID-19 illustrates our empathy problem. The message "I wear a mask to protect you, you wear a mask to protect me" did not resonate with millions of Americans; neither did the social value of vaccinations. Today's notion of individual freedom has little room for empathy.

"The death of human empathy is one of the earliest and most telling signs of a culture about to fall into barbarism," wrote phi-

losopher Hannah Arendt.

So, what can we do to boost our collective empathy level? Empathy — or lack of it — is partially hardwired: A 2018 University of Cambridge study found that 10% of differences in humans' ability to empathize can be attributed to genetic variations. But that means 90% is explained by non-genetic factors such as socialization and education. That suggests empathy can be taught.

Stanford neuroscientist Jamil Zaki confirms this in his book "The War for Kindness: Building Empathy in a Fractured World." The book shares research, including experiments from his own lab, showing that empathy can be strengthened through effort.

Author Roman Krznaric, in "Empathy: Why it Matters and How to Get It," argues that empathy should be taught at a young age. He notes that half of the children who participated in Roots of Empathy, a Canadian nonprofit that teaches school-age children to empathize with each other, were less likely to fight than they were prior to the program.

Here's one more idea: Administer an empathy test to every candidate for public office.

Prior to filing, every candidate would be required to listen to the old song "I'll Be Seeing You" by Billie Holiday. They would be asked to imagine a G.I. in a foxhole dreaming about his wife or girlfriend back home, and a young woman stateside wondering if her love would make it back. If by the last line "I'll be looking at the moon, but I'll be seeing you" there's not a tear in the candidate's eye, he or she wouldn't be allowed to run. We'd then know that our elected officials had hearts at least capable of empathy.

Henry David Thoreau may have said it best: "Could a greater miracle take place than for us to look through each other's eyes for an instant?"

Steve Martin had a less noble take: "Before you criticize a man, walk a mile in his shoes," he reportedly said. "That way, when you do criticize him, you'll be a mile away — and have his shoes."

But at least you will have done the walk. And the journey of a thousand miles — and to empathy — begins with a single step.

*Herb Cromwell retired as executive director of the Community Behavioral Health Association of Maryland. This was written for the Baltimore Sun.*



# What comes in the wake of a terrifying building collapse

By RICHARD A. SERRANO  
LOS ANGELES TIMES

It's been 40 years since 114 were killed and 200 others injured when two giant skywalks collapsed in the lobby of the Hyatt Regency hotel in Kansas City, Missouri. The images from that catastrophic structural failure—chunks of the walkways flattened to gray rubble, firemen clawing through busted concrete in search of the living or dead, the anguish of families desperate for news—seem to have been replayed in Surfside, Florida, in recent days.

In the weeks, months and a year or more ahead, even grimmer moments will follow. And answers could take years, if they

## VICE and VIRTUE SONNETS

# Brief Tales of Blind Justice Scales

## LITERARY NOOK

By JOEY 'PEPE BATBON' CONNOLLY  
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Joey "Pepe Batbon" Connolly is a retired teacher and has been named a poet laureate of Tinian. He has taught English in CNMI public schools for the past 30 years. He has also taught in Alaska, New Orleans, and Las Vegas.



## Four Forays into 4 A's on Justice

Four four-line poems for the 4th of July 2021.  
For all those who practice it, need it, and heed it.  
For freedom of the press & newspapers that feed it.

## Aristotle (384 – 322 B.C.) on Poetic Justice

Greek philosopher Aristotle described 'poetic justice' as "being pain felt at either good or bad fortune if undeserved or to joy felt at them if undeserved."

## Absolute Justice, Justice Absolute

a central doctrine or tenet of the Marines  
wipe out evil and illegal activities  
the end justifies the means.

## Abstracts of Justice

abstract justice applies laws with equitable facts  
and implementation of principles to matters  
information to be disseminated in abstracts.

## Administration of Justice

studying torts and lawbooks gives minds a nudge  
up all day and night to find out what is right  
people stand in court rooms, "Here comes the Judge."

## Justice Commences Jumping Fences

"Wrong none by doing injuries, or omitting the benefits that are your duty."  
—Benjamin Franklin

Justice is and justice tries to find reasons why  
justice walks a legal mile and truly takes a while  
how will the legal system treat all those that  
pass before them when trials come to a close  
court procedures guide the legal explanations  
leading to binding arbitration and negotiations  
lawyers reveal multiple disputes and allegations  
Aristotle says, "the virtue of justice consists in  
moderation, as regulated by wisdom."

## And Justice for All

"Nothing is to be preferred before justice."  
— Socrates, Greek philosopher, 470? - 399 B.C.

From the 4th of July to the far away future  
let us strive to make justice a prime virtue  
on Independence Day may we hear the call  
and pledge "liberty and justice for all"  
from the West Coast to the Philippine sea  
let the Pacific Ocean be pollution free  
let us all continue to seek justice for all  
from small tropical island to big city hall.

come at all.

Why did the high-rise Champlain Towers South condo building suddenly collapse in the pre-dawn hours on June 24? Whom should we blame? Will this community ever find closure over such an enveloping tragedy? As of Tuesday evening, 12 bodies had been recovered in the Surfside disaster; about 150 other people are missing.

The experts reviewing the Florida disaster are considering several scenarios: whether the beachfront building snapped near the underground parking garage, sending the 12 stories and 136 condos toppling down; or the foundation eroded from ocean salt-water or rising tides; a roof renovation project went wrong; or the outdoor pool splintered. One witness heard an eerie creaking sound. Others spied cracks around the site. Some felt the building shaking. Others spotted a sinkhole near the pool.

An advance warning had been sounded. A consultant in 2018 found evidence "of major structural damage" below the pool deck and "abundant" cracking of concrete beams and walls in the garage area. Afterward, however, the community was assured by a town inspector that the Champlain Towers complex remained "in very good shape."

A similar alert arose at the Hyatt Regency when the lobby ceiling collapsed during the hotel construction. The owners learned that many of the atrium connections were weakening. They repaired the roof but missed the lobby skywalks, which later pulled apart, largely because of an engineering design error.

Also in the Hyatt case, seven months passed before federal investigators pinpointed the structural design error. In Florida, federal investigators from Washington are offering their expertise, but it likely will take longer to determine if outside factors like water or weather were involved. A number of local and state agencies will be involved in the inquiry, though it's not clear which agency would lead the effort. Separate experts are also being hired by the building owners and the families considering lawsuits. All of this could compound or delay a definitive answer into why the seaside tower crumbled.

Already, a lawsuit seeking more than \$5 million has been filed by condo residents. Yet typically in mass disaster cases, the complicated litigation—usually a class-action suit—ends with out-

Bill Cosby was freed from prison. I'm shocked. I'm angry. But also a little happy

I'm so conflicted.

I hate to admit it, but it's true.

Part of me is secretly happy that Bill Cosby is out of prison. He's so old and blind now. I highly doubt he will bother any more women ever again. I hated the thought of him being locked up like that.

But then there's the other part of me that's shocked and angry. I believe women. I believe his accusers. I believe Andrea Constand. I can't imagine what she must be going through right now. She's probably kicking herself for believing she ever had a real shot getting justice with our flawed legal system. Yes, she was able to testify in court and get a jury to believe her allegations. Other women also got to share what Cosby did to them. I met some of them. Talked to them. Seeing him sentenced back in 2018 had to have been therapeutic.

But in the end, Cosby still won out. Freed over a technicality.

The Pennsylvania Supreme Court's ruling Wednesday that District Attorney Kevin Steele had to abide by his predecessor's handshake agreement not to charge Cosby changed the game for him.

And just like that a guilty man has gone free.

Never forget that Cosby hasn't been exonerated. He's not some innocent the system picked on just because he expressed interest in buying NBC. A jury convicted him of three counts of aggravated indecent assault for drugging and assaulting Constand at his home in 2004. Dozens more have made similar allegations.

This ruling is a huge setback for the #MeToo movement.

It's also a setback for sexual abuse survivors everywhere who all too often put their trust and faith in a system that doesn't always come through for them. They are going to look at this as another glaring example of why so many sex abuse survivors don't bother coming forward, especially when their allegations involve a wealthy, famous predator.

"People aren't going to get in the weeds in that way," said Monique Howard, a sexual violence advocate and public health strategist. "All they're going to think is that it was overturned. It's the women that suffer."

This is going to have a chilling effect on sexual assault survivors. Women will hesitate even longer before reporting sexual

of-court settlements and no public trial. There is only so much insurance money to go around, and the courts in recent decades have worked to accommodate everyone equitably.

What can be all the more agonizing is that the lawsuits plod along with legal depositions, evidentiary findings and pretrial hearings for years. And then the cases are abruptly resolved with a settlement just before a trial starts. The process can leave survivors and their families spinning. The lack of a trial often means families don't get the closure they might want.

Seldom is any individual held personally responsible; only the corporate entities or the construction companies acknowledge fault. In the Hyatt case, two structural engineers were punished in a state regulatory matter. They lost their licenses to practice engineering in Missouri. All of the lawsuits were settled in state and federal courts, and an estimated \$140 million was paid out to victims.

Class-action remedies have become the norm in mass disaster cases. No trial was held in the 2017 shooting rampage in Las Vegas that left 60 dead and hundreds wounded. In that case, an \$800 million out-of-court arrangement resolved the litigation. No public reckoning has ever explained why a casino high roller stocked his hotel room with assault rifles and opened fire on an outdoor concert below. Florida might very well end up with no full answers either.

Since 1981, there have been some significant advancements. Engineering and architectural standards have been tightened up. Today, PTSD therapy is offered to firefighters, police and paramedics.

But this much is certain: Even when the cause of the collapse is known in Florida, even after the litigation is done and the experts snap their briefcases shut, many affected in that community will never be made whole. In Kansas City, scores of survivors, families and first responders still tumble into tears at the memory of the summer of 1981.

For now, as Mayor Charles Burkett said on Sunday, with the growing likelihood that no one else will be found alive, "We just need a few more miracles each day."

Richard A. Serrano, a former Times reporter, is the author of the forthcoming book Buried Truths and the Hyatt Skywalks: The Legacy of America's Epic Structural Failure.

By JENICE ARMSTRONG  
Philadelphia Daily News

Jenice Armstrong is a Philadelphia Inquirer columnist.

abuse cases. All because Cosby had the means to have good lawyers bring his appeal before the Supreme Court.

It's an awful lot to digest.

Back in 2018, I wrote a column calling Cosby's sentencing both a triumph and a tragedy. I wrote about how much I admired all he had done for the culture with "The Cosby Show" and the millions he gave to historically Black colleges and universities.

On the other hand, I couldn't defend a man who had given drugs to Constand that left her defenseless to his sexual advances. That was a sleazy and low-down thing to do.

Still, I hated seeing Uncle Bill in his shirt sleeves with his hands cuffed being taken off to prison. It was difficult for me to witness a man whom I had grown up admiring fall so far from grace.

Whenever I found myself wondering what Cosby's life was like in prison and worrying about his health, I had to force myself to not think of him and instead to focus on Constand and his other victims.

Common sense and reasoning are wrestling with my heartstrings. I felt kind of the same way when the O.J. Simpson verdict went down.






Cosby is home now. A part of me smiled at the sight of him in that white Central High School T-shirt at the news conference outside his home. A Black man had beaten a system that too often has left African Americans with a knee on their throats.

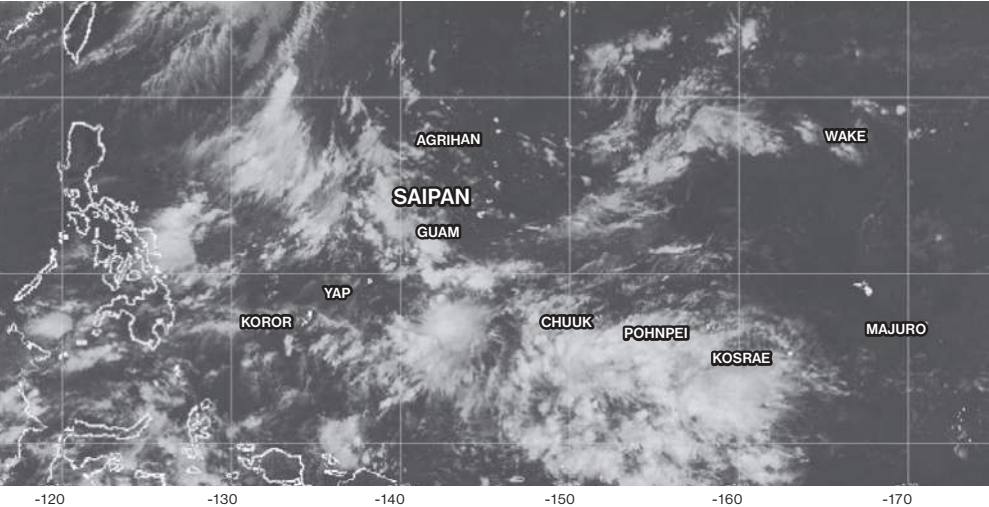
But just as I'm Black, I'm also a woman. Sisterhood is strong. I know his alleged victims are beside themselves with outrage. I feel for them, too.

As I said, my emotions are all over the place.



# The Weather

| 5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN   |     |   |     |   |     |   |     |  |     |
|--|-----|---|-----|---|-----|---|-----|--|-----|
| TODAY  |     | SATURDAY  |     | SUNDAY  |     | MONDAY  |     | TUESDAY  |     |
|         |     |          |     |  |     |  |     |  |     |
| Partly sunny with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 15 mph. |     | Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 15 mph. |     | Partly cloudy with isolated showers.  |     | Partly cloudy with isolated showers.  |     | Partly cloudy with isolated showers.   |     |
| 88°  | 78° | 88°   | 78° | 88°   | 78° | 88°   | 78° | 88°  | 78° |
| YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE  |     |   |     |   |     |   |     |  |     |



**PICTURE TIME: 7:11 AM, THURSDAY, JULY 1, 2021**  
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Satellite imagery shows partly cloudy skies and just a few showers across the region this morning. Late night showers and thunderstorms moved west after midnight and little rainfall has been seen over the islands since then. Two upper-level lows originally 15N150E and 20N155E have begun to merge with the upper low near 20N becoming the dominant system. This broad upper low has pushed drier air aloft over the Marianas from the north, helping to reduce regional cloud cover. Altimetry and Ipan buoy data show seas of 4 to 6 feet across the region.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

## STOP THE SPREAD

The Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents within the Marianas to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.

- Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.
- Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.
- Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.
- Send only one healthy adult from the household run necessary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulnerable people at home as much as possible. When returning home from an errand, wash your hands before doing anything else.
- Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.
- Create a household plan of action, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklisthousehold-ready.html>
- Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

**Continue good hand hygiene**

- Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

**Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you become symptomatic**

- Stay home when you are sick and if you recently traveled to a place with COVID-19. Self-quarantine means:
  - Choosing a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.
  - Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20

seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

- Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Limiting visitors

CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the community at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are available Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the COVID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323-6561 These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30 pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800-985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html>

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at [www.chcc.gov.mp](http://www.chcc.gov.mp) or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit [www.governor.gov.mp](http://www.governor.gov.mp) and, follow @GovernorCNMI on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at <http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html> and at [www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19](http://www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19).

**Rumor control**

During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

Source: Office of the Governor

| MICRONESIA    |               |           | ▲▼°F |
|---------------|---------------|-----------|------|
| Guam and Rota | Thunderstorms | 86° / 79° |      |
| Palau         | Thunderstorms | 86° / 76° |      |
| Yap           | Thunderstorms | 86° / 78° |      |
| Chuuk         | Thunderstorms | 86° / 78° |      |
| Pohnpei       | Thunderstorms | 84° / 77° |      |
| Kosrae        | Thunderstorms | 84° / 77° |      |
| Majuro        | Thunderstorms | 84° / 79° |      |

| DAY      | SUNRISE | SUNSET  |
|----------|---------|---------|
| Today    | 5:50 AM | 6:51 PM |
| Saturday | 5:50 AM | 6:51 PM |
| Sunday   | 5:51 AM | 6:51 PM |
| Monday   | 5:51 AM | 6:51 PM |
| Tuesday  | 5:51 AM | 6:51 PM |

| DAY      | MOONRISE | MOONSET  | MOONRISE |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Today    | 12:11 AM | 12:30 PM | -        |
| Saturday | 12:46 AM | 1:17 PM  | -        |
| Sunday   | 1:21 AM  | 2:04 PM  | -        |
| Monday   | 1:58 AM  | 2:52 PM  | -        |
| Tuesday  | 2:36 AM  | 3:42 PM  | -        |

| AROUND THE GLOBE |               |           | ▲▼°F |
|------------------|---------------|-----------|------|
| Auckland         | Showers       | 61° / 50° |      |
| Beijing          | Sunny         | 95° / 75° |      |
| Hong Kong        | Thunderstorms | 86° / 82° |      |
| Honolulu         | Mostly Sunny  | 86° / 74° |      |
| London           | Mostly Sunny  | 82° / 61° |      |
| Los Angeles      | Sunny         | 90° / 72° |      |
| Manila           | Thunderstorms | 90° / 79° |      |
| Melbourne        | Showers       | 55° / 43° |      |
| Miami            | Partly Cloudy | 86° / 80° |      |
| New York         | Thunderstorms | 84° / 72° |      |
| Osaka            | Rain          | 82° / 75° |      |
| Paris            | Sunny         | 88° / 64° |      |
| Busan            | Thunderstorms | 81° / 73° |      |
| Rome             | Sunny         | 97° / 70° |      |
| Salem            | Thunderstorms | 90° / 73° |      |
| San Francisco    | Sunny         | 64° / 51° |      |
| Seoul            | Thunderstorms | 81° / 73° |      |
| Tokyo            | Thunderstorms | 84° / 73° |      |
| Washington, DC   | Thunderstorms | 86° / 74° |      |

| TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY |           |      | FEET |
|----------------------------|-----------|------|------|
| 2:01 AM                    | High Tide | 2.01 |      |
| 8:42 AM                    | Low Tide  | 0.97 |      |
| 1:46 PM                    | High Tide | 1.50 |      |
| 7:49 PM                    | Low Tide  | 0.78 |      |

## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 1, 2021

| DEPARTURES          |        |        |               | ARRIVALS            |         |          |               |
|---------------------|--------|--------|---------------|---------------------|---------|----------|---------------|
| SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)   |        |        |               | GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN   |         |          |               |
| UA117               | 6:30am | 7:10am | 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 | UA174               | 4:50am  | 5:31am   | 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 |
| SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL) |        |        |               | MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN |         |          |               |
| UA117/183           | 6:30am | 8:50pm | 5 via Guam    | UA184/174           | 9:50pm  | 5:31am+1 | 5 via Guam    |
| UA117/183           | 6:30am | 9:10pm | 3, 7 via Guam |                     |         |          |               |
| GUAM-MANILA (MNL)   |        |        |               | MANILA (MNL)-GUAM   |         |          |               |
| UA183               | 6:55pm | 8:50pm | 5             | UA184               | 9:50pm  | 4:05am+1 | 5             |
| UA183               | 7:15pm | 9:10pm | 1, 3          | UA184               | 10:25pm | 4:20am+1 | 1, 3          |

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

## STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

### FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 18, 2021

| SAIPAN TO ROTA   |           |         |                         | 1202 | 8:00  | 8:15  | Daily                   |
|------------------|-----------|---------|-------------------------|------|-------|-------|-------------------------|
| FLIGHT #         | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY               | 1203 | 9:00  | 9:15  | Daily                   |
| 1301             | 8:30AM    | 9:00AM  | Daily                   | 1204 | 10:00 | 10:15 | Daily                   |
| 1302             | 11:00AM   | 11:30AM | Daily                   | 1205 | 11:00 | 11:15 | Daily                   |
| 1303             | 1:30PM    | 2:00PM  | Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri      | 1206 | 12:00 | 12:15 | Temporarily Unavailable |
| 1304             | 3:30PM    | 4:00PM  | Daily                   | 1207 | 13:00 | 13:15 | Temporarily Unavailable |
| ROTA TO SAIPAN   |           |         |                         | 1208 | 14:00 | 14:15 | Daily                   |
| FLIGHT #         | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY               | 1209 | 15:00 | 15:15 | Daily                   |
| 3101             | 9:30AM    | 10:00AM | Daily                   | 1210 | 16:00 | 16:15 | Daily                   |
| 3102             | 12:00AM   | 12:30AM | Daily                   | 1211 | 17:00 | 17:15 | Daily                   |
| 3103             | 1:30PM    | 3:00PM  | Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri      | 1212 | 17:00 | 17:15 | Temporarily Unavailable |
| 3104             | 4:30PM    | 5:00PM  | Daily                   |      |       |       |                         |
| ROTA TO GUAM     |           |         |                         |      |       |       |                         |
| FLIGHT #         | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY               | 2101 | 7:30  | 7:45  | Temporarily Unavailable |
| 3401             | 12:15     | 12:45   | Temporarily Unavailable | 2102 | 8:30  | 8:45  | Daily                   |
| GUAM TO ROTA     |           |         |                         | 2103 | 9:30  | 9:45  | Daily                   |
| FLIGHT #         | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY               | 2104 | 10:30 | 10:45 | Daily                   |
| 4301             | 13:00     | 13:30   | Temporarily Unavailable | 2105 | 11:30 | 11:45 | Daily                   |
|                  |           |         |                         | 2106 | 12:30 | 12:45 | Temporarily Unavailable |
|                  |           |         |                         | 2107 | 13:30 | 13:45 | Temporarily Unavailable |
|                  |           |         |                         | 2108 | 14:30 | 14:45 | Daily                   |
|                  |           |         |                         | 2109 | 15:30 | 15:45 | Daily                   |
|                  |           |         |                         | 2110 | 16:30 | 16:45 | Daily                   |
|                  |           |         |                         | 2111 | 17:30 | 17:45 | Daily                   |
|                  |           |         |                         | 2112 | 18:30 | 18:45 | Temporarily Unavailable |
| SAIPAN TO TINIAN |           |         |                         |      |       |       |                         |
| FLIGHT #         | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY               |      |       |       |                         |
| 1201             | 7:00      | 7:15    | Temporarily Unavailable |      |       |       |                         |

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COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

**LEVEL GREEN**

MOVING CLOSER TO NORMALCY



Under Level Green, indoor/outdoor gatherings of 100% fully vaccinated individuals are permitted throughout the Commonwealth as long as the vaccination status of the persons involved are verified.

BEA CABRERA

# Level Green in the time of the COVID-19 pandemic

By **BEA CABRERA**  
beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com  
CORRESPONDENT

**A**fter a year of being on Level Blue of the Community Vulnerability risk scale, which is one level higher than the safest level, the Office of the Governor lowered the CNMI's risk level to Green last week, which means the islands are at its lowest risk of COVID-19 community vulnerability.

According to the Office of the Governor announcement, Level Green corresponds to a COVID-19 Rating between 1.80 and 2.00 or greater. At this level, positive cases for COVID-19 and the risk to public health are low as long as points of entry mitigation continues as necessary.

Level Green in the CNMI means mitigation at points-of-entry is still intact; community vaccination rate is above 60%; fully vaccinated people are able to participate in indoor and outdoor activities; no more curfew; unvaccinated people should remain cautious; all businesses can accommodate 100% occupancy if vaccination is verifiable and, if not, 75%; and social distancing, wearing masks and washing hands are still advisable practices.

After 15 months of living through a pandemic and

adjusting to health requirements in order to be safe, Saipan Chamber of Commerce president and business owner Joe Guerrero welcomes with optimism and relief this latest development.

"This means that we are slowly opening up and with less restrictions on commercial activities. For some business owners, such as gas stations, restaurants, and retail stores, it means that their operations may continue 24 hours to cater to the needs of our people and tourists, especially the ones arriving or departing the CNMI in the late night or early morning hours," he said.

"As a business owner, it means that I can open later if needed to serve guests and as a business consultant, I sometimes need to report to the office to join a group conference call or work on tight project deadlines that sometimes require me to work past the 2am curfew hours. Lifting the curfew allows flexibility for those that do not work regular 8am to 5pm jobs, including our local commercial fishermen," he added.

Marcia E. Ayuyu, McDonald's Saipan owner/operator and former Rotary Club of Saipan president, said that the CNMI being under Level Green is the best news our community has received so far.

"As former Rotary Club  
See **LEVEL** on Page 19

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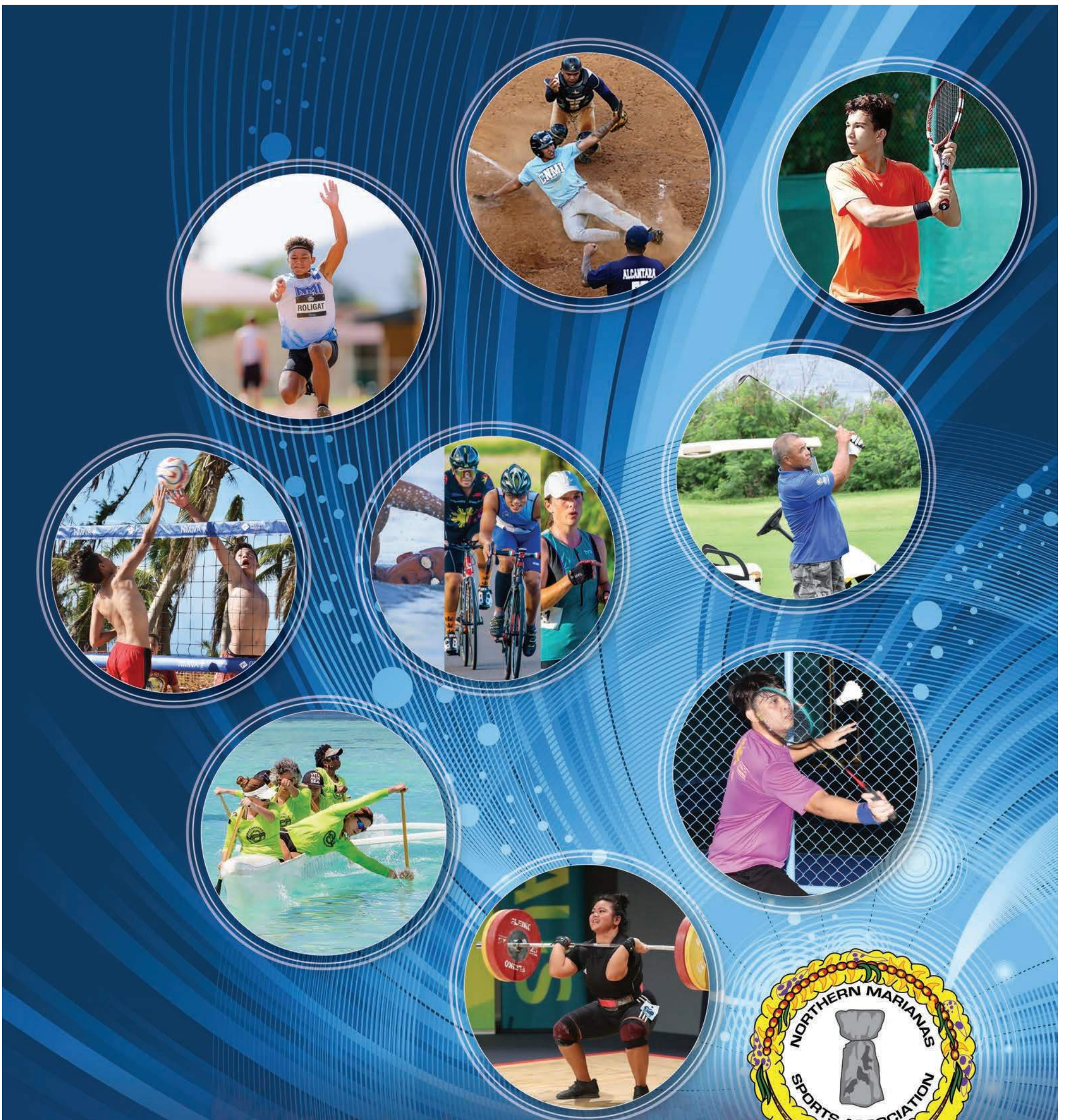
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By **BEA CABRERA**  
beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com  
CORRESPONDENT

Like all other schools in the CNMI, Grace Christian Academy on Navy Hill faced the challenge of seeing through the education of children amid the COVID-19 pandemic, but managed to make it by strictly following the health protocols mandated by the government and health agencies.

That compliance with health protocols while educating its students with an excellent education that is rooted in a biblical foundation has allowed the school to make it through the school year with flying colors. And now that the CNMI has been placed at Level Green, which is the safest level in the five-color Community Vulnerability Scale, GCA hopes it will manage to maintain that level so that all its grade levels will have in-person instruction in the new school year.

"Our classes went online at the time when our community was in lockdown. However, as soon as we were permitted, we opened our doors for face-to-face instruction. ...GCA has worked closely with the COVID-19 Task Force and has been very diligent in following all necessary guidelines



For 35 years now, Grace Christian Academy has been one of the prestigious private schools on Saipan.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

and protocols," said principal Beth A. Nunez, M.A.

"We have even gone above and beyond the required protocols to make sure to provide a safe learning environment for our students. ...We are hopeful that our community will remain under Green Level so when we start the new school year, all our grade levels will have face-to-face instruction daily," Nunez added.

Nunez said that, as a edu-

cational institution that plays a big responsibility in the community, GCA is glad that

"We thank Gov. Ralph [DLG] Torres, [Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. CEO] Esther

*'...We are hopeful that our community will remain under Green Level so when we start the new school year, all our grade levels will have face-to-face instruction daily'*

government and healthcare leaders are working hard to keep people in the CNMI safe.

Muna, COVID-19 Task Force chair Warren Villagomez, the entire COVID-19 Task Force,

and all our leaders who have worked hard to keep our community safe. Most importantly, we thank God for his hand of protection on us all," she said, adding that GCA intends to maintain the health and safety protocols as required.

GCA was established in 1986 by Rev. Raymond Kinsella.

According to Nunez, GCA strive to develop the whole child through strong Christian education. "We seek to

engage the mind in its search for truth, develop Godly character formed by biblical principles, and nurture a love for God and humanity. Our programs puts emphasis on academic excellence through proven teaching methods and a constant search for improvement," she said.

"We realize the differences in innate abilities and encourage the students to perform to their maximum potential, that is why character training is another emphasis, with obedience that come from the heart. This eventually cultivates inner self-discipline, which is essential to the emotional, physical, and spiritual wellbeing of the students. Students are also taught that all people are God's creation and are to be loved and accepted without regard to outward differences, as well as encouraged to understand and appreciate cultural differences amongst themselves and in our community as a whole," she added.







## GRACE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

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**Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC)** and  
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|  |   |
|--|---|
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|--|---|

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**GCA IS ALSO A PART OF THE U.S. STUDENT & VISITOR EXCHANGE PROGRAM AND ACCEPTS FOREIGN STUDENTS.**




**Grace Christian Academy is located on Upper Navy Hill. For more information, please call 322-3320/3850 or set up an appointment to visit the school**



By BEA CABRERA  
beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com  
CORRESPONDENT

Now that the CNMI is under Level Green, personal or self-care establishments like Brabu Pharmacy, Gold's Gym, Natural Nail Spa, and Latte Built Gym are seeing this as a green light to expand the services they offer while still remaining vigilant when it comes to COVID-19 health and safety protocols.

### BRABU PHARMACY LLC

According to Kanani Lee of Brabu Pharmacy LLC, they remain focused in their mission to provide medication and life-enhancing services.



BEA CABRERA

Brabu Pharmacy is located on Middle Road in Gualo Rai.

enhancing services. "Under Level Green, we will continue to promote hygiene and safety to avoid any rise in community transmission." This means Brabu Pharmacy will continue to mandate masks and hand sanitizer use in all three locations—Gualo Rai, Kagman, and Mariana Heights, she said.

Lee said that part of Brabu's service to the community is they currently offer onsite vaccination for patients filling a vaccine prescription. "This is available at our main branch in Gualo Rai. ...Currently, we are in the process of becoming a COVID-19 vaccination site as well. Brabu Pharmacy's key role in the community is to provide safe, efficient medication and pharmaceutical services to the members of the CNMI, even as we ascend to Level Green."

"We have been in full operation since the pandemic was declared in the U.S. in March of 2020 and we must not forget the reason we are still safe here in the CNMI—please continue to prevent community transmission by getting vaccinated, wear a mask in public spaces, and wash your hands or use hand sanitizer. Stay Brabu (healthy or active) and make great decisions for your overall health and safety," Lee added.

### GOLD'S GYM SAIPAN

Under Level Green, Gold's Gym Saipan will continue to conduct temperature checks and require people to wear masks, except when a person is fully vaccinated. In that case, wearing a mask is no longer needed; just present your COVID-19 vaccination card at the reception desk.

According to general manager Tyce Mister, this new level complement their mission, which is to "help people achieve their potential through fitness."

"I think exercise is always important for part of a balanced

healthy lifestyle. However, during the pandemic, it's even more important as exercise and a healthy lifestyle can help boost the immune system.

...Since going green, many of our members have verified their COVID-19 Vaccination Record Cards and are enjoying their workouts mask free. ...For those members that have chosen not to get vaccinated we appreciate their continued cooperation in wearing their masks and social distancing," he said.

"Our long-term members inspire me by their dedication and perseverance in making fitness a priority throughout this whole pandemic...and we keep our health and safety protocols in place. ...Members use disinfectant to clean their equipment as we have always done. Additionally, we are continuing with nightly sanitation after closing using our electrostatic sprayer," he added.

### Natural Nail Spa

According to Natural Nail Spa owner Rhea Backe, Level Green is a signal that the CNMI community is entering into some form of normalcy. "Which is an opportunity for us to operate our business at ease. ...At Natural Nail Spa, we will continue our safety efforts that includes sanitizing and wearing a mask to ensure everyone is safe. We still require our employees to wear a mask when providing services. Customers are recommended to wear a mask as well. However, we will trust our clients if they opt not wear a mask, especially if they're vaccinated and has no fever," she said.

"Good hygiene is at the top of our list. Even before the pandemic, Natural Nail Spa was already providing a clean, safe, and relaxing environment. We have a daily and weekly routine to sanitize our equipment [and] surfaces and we monitor our facility to protect our customers and ensure that our employ-

ees work in a safe environment," she added.

Backe said they welcome both vaccinated and unvaccinated customers.

"For unvaccinated clients, I'm sure they're not ready to take the risk, but for those who have received the vaccine, they may be comfortable being out in the open. We are accommodating at 100% capacity but we prefer clients to make an appointment in advance, especially on holiday and weekends. We still take customer's temperatures and have them sign-in as well."

"Part of our services is to provide self-care and beauty maintenance. Self-care is so important because it boosts our self-esteem and lowers our risk of catching a disease. ...Whether you need a new look, [indulge in] 'me' time, or for any reason to relax, Natural Nail Spa is here for you," she added.

Natural Nail Spa is located across Bank of Hawaii on Middle Road, Gualo Rai.

### LATTE BUILT GYM

Level Green means going back to business as usual for Latte Built Gym, which has branches in Oleai and Kagman, according to owner Derek Cutting.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Latte Built Gym is open 24/7 with branches in Oleai and Kagman.

disinfectant) and individual rags to wipe down equipment after use. Our staff will still mass sanitize our facilities multiple times per day and will still require temperature checks upon entry," he said.

"The changes that I think most members want, however, are the freedom to train without a mask on. ...Members can now show us their vaccination cards and will no longer need to wear a mask while training. Those who have not been vaccinated will still need to wear a mask and all will still need to [maintain] social distancing parameters," he added.

Latte Built Gym adheres to 100% capacity that is allowed under Level Green. "...The great thing about being open 24/7 is that all members don't have to come in during rush hour (4pm - 7pm). This organically keeps our occupancy at no more than 50% throughout the day and night," Cutting added.

"Staying healthy throughout one's life is important, regardless of a global pandemic. However, this COVID-19 pandemic has proven that weak immune systems have a lot of trouble fighting the virus. Working out and eating clean and nutritious foods are two of the easiest ways to fight off any disease. Think about living a 'preventative lifestyle' versus a potentially expensive and deadly 'reactive lifestyle,'" he added.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Natural Nail Spa is located across Bank of Hawaii on Middle Road.

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To the CNMI Government Employees, Retirees and Surviving Spouses

# A quick “Thank you”

**We understand how important your health and well-being is. We also know you have choices about who you enlist to help you and your loved ones reach your best health. That’s why we want to say “Thank you” for allowing us to be your health care partner and providing you with the tools and resources you need, no matter where you are on your well-being journey.**

Our goal, as always, is to provide you with access to the highest levels of care and support possible through our:

- Strong local presence, in partnership with Pacifica Insurance Underwriters, Inc.
- Comprehensive global resources
- 24/7 Member Service Support

## It’s worth repeating

As many parts of the world begin to open back up, we want to remind you of all the great benefits your Aetna plan has to offer you and your loved ones, at home and abroad. We’re committed to helping you get and stay healthy with comprehensive benefits focused on “well care”—resources to keep you and your loved ones healthy—as well as making sure you have access to world-class health care when you’re unwell. Your global benefits are good all over the world and include:

- A network of 1.3 million doctors and health care facilities in the U.S. mainland
- 650 doctors and health care facilities in the NMI and Guam
- Access to off-island care when that’s what’s needed with +60,000 providers in the Philippines and many more across Asia Pacific including Taiwan and Hong Kong
- Outstanding member support via an on-island team, as well as a dedicated CNMI member website
- A 24/7 Member Service team you can always access by phone, with additional support through Health Hub—your personalized web-based member portal—and the Aetna Health mobile app
- Well-being tools, resources and special member offers to help with your mental and physical health, including advanced apps like Wysa, Pzizz, ClassPass and more
- An employee assistance program that covers everything from stress reduction programs and life coaching to therapeutic counselling
- The latest health and well-being content regularly delivered to your inbox

## We appreciate you

Thank you for letting us be a part of your health and well-being journey. If you have questions about your Aetna plan and all that it can do for your health and well-being, don’t hesitate to call the number on your Member ID card and we’ll be happy to help you.

AetnaInternational.com

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By BEA CABRERA  
beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com  
CORRESPONDENT

# Restaurants revives pre-pandemic practices—with some changes

**“Y**es, we are open.”  
What a big difference this four-word sentence makes amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

“Yes, we are open to serve you.”

“Yes, we are open to satisfy your need for food or drink.”

“Yes we are open for business.”

Music to the ears for those who have seen their movements restricted for more than a year due to the pandemic. This slow progression to some form of normalcy is how it is supposed to be.

Since the COVID-19 Task Force declared CNMI under Level Green last week—which means a low risk of COVID-19 infection—many restaurants were empowered to revert back to familiar practices and service but with some small changes that still prioritizes the health and safety of every customer.

## ‘Same, same but different’

True blue buffet is back on weekends at the Hyatt Regency Saipan, where you can approach every food station to get dishes with your own hands—just like pre-pandemic times. The difference is, food stations are protected by plexiglass and each customer must wear disposable plastic gloves and both are in place to maintain health and safety protocols.

“It took time but with the recent developments, we were able to communicate with the authorities and got a full inspection. Now customers can self-serve, get as many or as little as they want on their plate and that is the exciting part about buffets,” said Hyatt executive sous chef Zen Tomokane.

“...It has been over a year that we missed having self-serve buffet style at the Hyatt. ...We still have unlimited offerings where food was brought to customer’s table but we know buffet style is really the island style, especially when celebrating special occasions. We have always wanted to bring self-serve buffet but [to do it safely]. ...After getting accreditation from the COVID-19 Task Force, [Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.], Bureau of Environmental Health, etc. we were given clearance. ...We did this concept for Father’s Day. ...This is all possible



Food service stations at the Hyatt Regency Saipan's Giovanni's Restaurant is covered by plexiglass to maximize health and safety of both employees and customers.

BEA CABRERA



Expect a variety of food at the Hyatt Regency Saipan's lunch and dinner buffets on the weekend featuring Kevin's vegetable farm roll for health buffs that is made up of local vegetables.

BEA CABRERA

because of the hard work that these agencies put in to help businesses like the Hyatt,” he added.

Upon entry, customers are still asked to wear masks, log in their names, phone numbers, and body temperature, and sanitize their hands. Social distancing is still in place. That is why instead of 100% capacity, Hyatt is implementing 75%.

Every Wednesday and Thursday at Kili Cafe, the Miyako set or Japanese cuisine unlimited lunch set menu is from 11:30am to 2pm and Miyako set or Japanese cuisine unlimited dinner set menu is from

6pm to 9pm. Skipper's Beach Bar opens from 4:30pm to 8:30pm.

For buffet weekends, plastic gloves are used one time per trip to the food stations and more are available at the start of the buffet rows. On Friday and Saturday, Kili Café/Giovanni's Lunch Buffet is from 11:30am to 2:pm and Kili Café/Giovanni's Dinner Buffet is from 6pm to 9pm. Skipper's Beach Bar is open from 4:30pm to 8:30pm.

On Sundays, Kili Café/Giovanni's Brunch with unlimited champagne awaits you from 10:30am to 2pm and Kili Café/Giovanni's Ala Carte menu is available from 6pm to 9pm.

Skipper's Beach Bar is open from noon to 8:30pm.

Tomokane assures that the buffet and ala carte menus will always have top-notch quality because they are always served fresh. He also stressed that the menu will always be rotating and calls it an “organic menu” where they change the array of food as the seasons changes, de-

pending on what's fresh and what's available. “...We will maximize use of local products and vegetables, incorporating that into our appetizers. ...We are introducing a coconut green soup that has no cream... and main entrees that will represent dishes from around the world. ...At the salad bar, there is a variety of protein alternatives,...so the vegetarian and healthy options are there and we are excited to see how the market will respond to that,” he said.

“We will be introducing many new taste and flavors like our Asian-style cold turkey roast that will be available on the hunter's table or carving station. ...The pork shabu shabu and warm bread pudding will be staples at the dinner buffet. The pork shabu shabu comes with three delectable sauces that allows you to season the dish in accordance to your taste. ...The bread pudding is kept warm and partnered with the Tennessee whiskey honey caramel that will make your dessert enjoyable,” he added.

Lunch and dinner buffet on Friday, Saturday and Sunday is \$43 per person and \$25 for Club at the Hyatt members. A set price is available for unlimited lunch and dinner set menu during Wednesday and Thursday. For more information, call (670) 234-1234 or visit their website: saipan.regency.hyatt.com.

## Grandvrio's Dolphin Restaurant reopens

Grandvrio Resort Saipan closed its hotel operations, including food and beverage service, on March 29 last year when the COVID-19 virus was declared a pandemic. Food and Beverage manager Hongguo Li said it was a tough journey for them. Now that conditions are getting better in the CNMI, opening Dol-

See **PRACTICES** on Page 19



Beginning today, Dolphin Restaurant at the penthouse of Grandvrio Resort Hotel is open for lunch from 11:30am to 2pm Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.

BEA CABRERA



Grandvrio Resort Hotel food and beverage manager Hongguo Li is excited to see regular and new customers at Dolphin Restaurant's opening today.

BEA CABRERA



## PRACTICES

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phin Restaurant starting today, July 2, comes at the right time.

"We were already making plans to reopen Dolphin Restaurant and the declaration last week that CNMI is now under Level Green came as a bonus. ... We have three restaurants at the hotel but we are opening Dolphin Restaurant first because many of our regular customers have been asking for it. ... When we have tourists back, then we will plan to open the other restaurants," he said.

"I have received phone calls from people asking when are we opening and some are already trying to make reservations. It is heart-breaking to tell them we are not in operation yet but now that we are opening again, we are excited to see regular and new customers," he added.

Dolphin Restaurant is at the penthouse of Grandvrio Resort Hotel in Garapan, where guests can enjoy the view of the turquoise ocean and delight at the sight of huge ships stationed outside the Saipan lagoon. "For now, Dolphin Restaurant will be open Friday, Saturday, and Sunday for lunch only from 11:30am to 2pm. We have been waiting for this moment for a long time and we will serve lunch only until conditions become better during the pandemic," he said.

"We serve Japanese food and most of the items on the menu will be the same as before—the popular dishes that customers love. ... The pricing is still reasonable and we didn't want to increase our prices so much because we know the situation of the community on Saipan. Most do not have steady incomes or jobs. With our dishes still affordable, we want everyone to come and enjoy their old favorites," he added.

For only \$18, the Chef Special Lunch includes Salmon Fish and Spare Ribs and comes with salad, soup of the day, rice, and dessert. For only \$15, Special Lunch Bento includes Hamburger steak and chicken teriyaki. They also have an ala carte menu that includes Beef Short Ribs set (\$15), Katsu Curry set (\$15), and Katsu Ju set (\$13). Japanese noodles is never far away with their hot/cold udon with tempura for only \$12 and shrimp and vegetables tempura set for only \$15.

Li said that health and safety protocols are in place starting at the

hotel lobby. "Guests of Dolphin Restaurant will be asked to log in their names, have their temperatures taken, asked to wear masks, and observe social distancing. When they go up to the 10<sup>th</sup> floor, hand sanitizing stations are available to keep their hands clean. ... Originally we could sit 72 persons in the restaurant but, since we implement social distancing, we will accommodate 50 people at one time in the restaurant.

"We also accept celebrations for special occasions or company meetings. ... We commend the government and COVID19 Task Force for working with us so that we can reopen. Everybody is working hard and we are ready at Dolphin Restaurant to see familiar faces and give them the service and care that they missed and they can only find at Dolphin Restaurant," he added.

Dolphin Restaurant of Grandvrio Resort Hotel is open for lunch from 11:30am to 2pm on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. For reservations, call (670)234-6495 or (670) 237-2527 or email: hongguoli@grandvrio-saipan.com.

### Special events and celebrations are back at JC Café Tinian

JC Café on Tinian is a destination in itself. Established in 1991, it is always welcoming. Their array of dishes is a mix of Chamorro, Japanese, Korean, and Filipino menus that will satisfy your thirst for local flavor and taste.

One will never get enough of their 'Orig' Buttered Fried Chicken. This dish is so popular that people from Saipan and Rota order them in trays and pay for its shipment. "We have never changed. ... We have always maintained a friendly, family-

oriented atmosphere, always serve good food and our restaurant is also known for highlighting local artwork that tells the island's rich history displayed on our walls. Every time you visit Tinian and come to JC Café, you will feel the Chamorro hospitality our island can give. Our specialties include red rice, the famous Buttered Chicken, and island dishes such as Local Beef Tinala and coco pickles. ... Customers can also instruct the servers if they have special dietary requirements," said general manager Lot Bunao.

"When the pandemic hit, we closed for two weeks and, after the governor announced that establishments like us can open at reduced hours, we did that. ... Even though we are now on Level Green, we are still very careful and still follow the hygiene protocols," Bunao added.

JC Café now accommodates indoor and outdoor special events like weddings, christenings, birthday parties, etc. "We also do event planning like wedding proposals and anniversaries, with romantic dinner set-up at the beach side. ... Last week, we organized the wedding anniversary of Chris and Rowena Cook at the Tahogna Beach. ... We made everything special... to achieve the perfect wedding anniversary ambiance. ... Now that we are on Level Green, we are looking forward to making more special events come true," she said.

"We are also proud to be a long-time member of the Marianas Visitor's Authority and part of the Hafa Adai Tirow Pledge. It is really important to show that JC Café is always participating, supporting and promoting the CNMI cultures, history, music, tradition and, most

of all, the beauty and cleanliness of our island. Our involvement to help Tinian and other islands in the CNMI will be there all the time," she added.

For more information, call (670) 433-3413 or cellphone (670) 285-3413 or (670) 783-3413.

### Eats Easy continues to conquer your hunger

Eats Easy opened business at the start of the pandemic and quickly became a welcome alternative for people who opted to stay home for safety reasons and order food. At the same time, they helped restaurants continue running and cater to customers' needs by bringing food to them. According to company president Clint Albert, they will stick to what works, even during Level Green.

"We are not making any changes for now in terms of delivery standard operating procedures. We are sticking to our strict protocols to ensure everyone's safety. Even though the Level Green is a sign of great things to come, it is still not a guarantee that things will be back to normal. Conditions may change in an instant but we remain hopeful and positive," he said.

"We thank the government for doing a great job in controlling the pandemic and possible spread to the islands. We also thank the community for being united in following protocols to ensure everyone's safety. ... Even though we are at Level Green, we should remain vigilant in protecting ourselves, our family, and the people around us. At Eats Easy, we will maintain all our delivery procedures and protocols daily from 9am to 8pm for everyone's safety," he added.



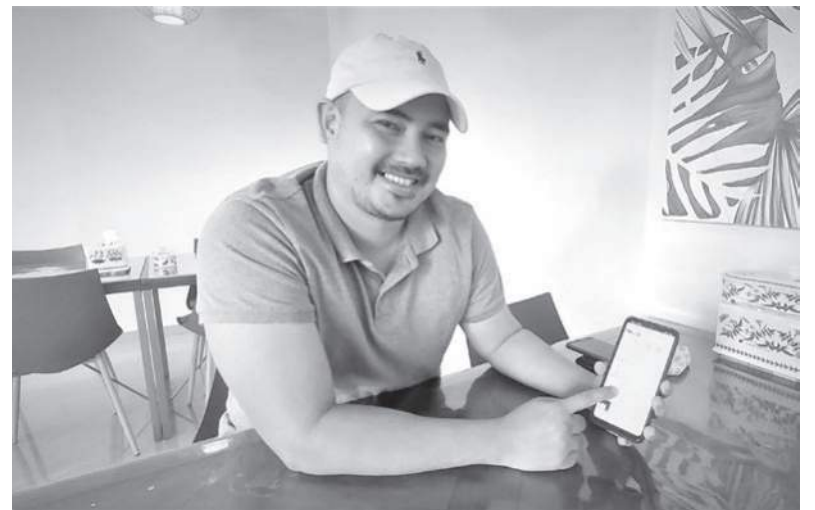
Level Green has allowed JC Café to open up its services for indoor and outdoor functions complete with organizing, decorating, and catering. This was a wedding anniversary set up done at Tahogna Beach on Tinian.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



JC Café set up the special celebration of Cris and Rowena Cook's fourth anniversary. "Now that we are at Level Green, we can do more service for JC Café customers," said JC Café manager Lot Bunao.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Eats Easy president Clint Albert says the company continues to provide service and ensures health and safety measures are in place when delivering food.

BEA CABRERA

## LEVEL

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president, I am happy to hear this because it has been over a year that we have missed seeing some members who have not come to our meetings because they are worried about their health and staying home is the safest thing to do and that is understandable," she said. "As a business owner, this means we're almost back to normal. ... People can go around and, most importantly, we are able to start receiving tourists once again and while they are here, they know it is safe. Our McDonald's customers can start com-

ing into the restaurant to sit down and enjoy having a meeting. ... We are still going to continue to practice safety protocols and encourage people to sanitize their hands. This is a new way of doing business, keeping everybody health and with safety in mind. I also encourage the community to go out and get vaccinated so we can all be safe and back to our normal way of life," she added.

For IT&E general manager Rose A. Soledad, the CNMI advancing to Level Green means progress. "It means that the safeguards we have in place and the vaccination efforts that we are doing is working. We should continue to move in this direction so that we are closer to reviving our economy and

have more opportunities to resurrect our workforce," she said.

Travis Jones, owner of the Last Shot Bar in San Antonio, said that Level Green means the mood in the community has lightened a bit and people are coming in with smiles. "Everybody is excited to see the light at the end of the tunnel. I was only staying open until midnight but have changed my hours to be open until 2am at the request of our customers," he said.

"I have had a couple people at the bar since we transitioned to Level Green that haven't been out since COVID began and I believe that some who have stayed to themselves over the last year will start

having family functions and social gatherings once again. I am hopeful for business meetings and mixers to be starting up in person," he added.

Businessman Ivan Ilmov commends the COVID-19 Task Force for a job well done. "This is huge for me personally because I have three children and, as a father, you are always on your toes to keep them safe and healthy. I also hope Level Green will give more opportunities for children to go back to face-to-face classes and socialize because this is important to their development and growth, especially for the younger ones. As a businessman, this will make projects easy to achieve or finish, now that people are not afraid

to go out anymore," he said.

Bank of Saipan president and CEO John Z. Arroyo said that businesses will be frequented more because the limited occupancy has been lifted. "We will also see improvements economically. At the bank, we won't be limited by the number of customers coming in and again have the ability to do or participate in more functions and offer more functions where people can gather in one place. ... With restrictions reduced, this opens doors for businesses to entertain more of their customers, hopefully like the pre-pandemic levels, as far allowing more customers to utilize our services at any time," he added.



# WE ARE BACK!

## SAIPAN SOCCER SCHOOL SUMMER CAMP 2021



**July 6 to July 30, 2021**  
**Monday to Friday**  
**8AM - 12PM**

**TSL SPORTS COMPLEX**

### FOR:

**BOYS & GIRLS U8, U10, and U12 (Futsal)**  
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or call 235-0560 extension 156

Filled out registration and waiver forms  
Pre-register on or before July 6, 2021  
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# DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

P. O. Box 501304, Saipan MP 96950 | Gualo Rai Center, Saipan | TEL. NO. 664-8300 | FAX NO. 664-8315

[www.dcrm.gov.mp](http://www.dcrm.gov.mp)



## NOTICE OF APPLICATION

### As of July 02, 2021

THE FOLLOWING IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE DCRM OFFICE:

| APPLICANT   | DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED       | APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION                                      | LOCATION                                      | TYPE                      | STATUS                           |
|---|---------------------------------|--|---|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. JB Corporation dba Saipan Fresh Adventure                    | 05/27/2021<br>SLR-2020-X-054-R2 | Snorkeling Tour Operation  | Grotto, Saipan                                | Lagoon & Reef             | Approved<br>06/21/2021           |
| 2. Kwon & Byun Corporation dba Saipan Atty Dive                 | 05/27/2021<br>SLR-2018-122-R4   | SCUBA Diving Tour Operation/ Instruction                             | All Designated Dive Sites, Saipan             | Lagoon & Reef             | Approved<br>06/21/2021           |
| 3. Shim Corporation dba Pro Divers                              | 05/27/2021<br>SLR-2018-X-100-R4 | SCUBA Diving Tour Operation/ Instruction                             | All Designated Dive Sites, Saipan & Tinian    | Lagoon & Reef             | Approved<br>06/21/2021           |
| 4. Deep Blue, Inc. dba Deep Blue Diving                         | 05/27/2021<br>SLR-2018-X-098-R4 | SCUBA Diving Tour Operation/ Instruction                             | All Designated Dive Sites, Saipan & Tinian    | Lagoon & Reef             | Approved<br>06/21/2021           |
| 5. Saipan A-Venture, LLC dba Saipan Adventure                   | 05/27/2021<br>SLR-2018-X-099-R4 | Snorkeling Tour Operation  | Grotto, Laulau Bay, Forbidden Island, Saipan  | Lagoon & Reef             | Approved<br>06/21/2021           |
| 6. Hana Tour Services, Inc. dba Saipan Hana Tour                | 05/27/2021<br>SLR-2018-X-137-R4 | Snorkeling Tour Operation  | Mariagaha                                     | Lagoon & Reef             | Approved<br>06/21/2021           |
| 7. Korea Tourism Inc. dba Koreana Tourism Bureau                | 05/27/2021<br>SLR-2018-X-138-R4 | Snorkeling Tour Operation  | Saipan & Mariagaha Lagoon, Saipan             | Lagoon & Reef             | Approved<br>06/22/2021           |
| 8. Big Boy Marine Sports, Inc. dba Big Boyz Marine II           | 05/27/2021<br>SLR-2018-X-121-R4 | Banana Boat, Stand Up Paddle Board, Snorkeling, Kayaking             | Kanoa Resort Beach Area, Saipan               | Lagoon & Reef             | Approved<br>06/22/2021           |
| 9. Big Boy Marine Sports, Inc. dba Big Boyz Marine II           | 05/27/2021<br>SLR-2018-X-120-R4 | Banana Boat, Stand Up Paddle Board, Snorkeling, Kayaking             | Fiesta Resort Beach Area & Mariagaha, Saipan  | Lagoon & Reef             | Approved<br>6/22/2021            |
| 10. Big Boy Marine Sports, Inc. dba Big Boyz Marine II          | 05/27/2021<br>SLR-2018-X-080-R4 | Parasailing Operation  | Designated Parasailing Zone, Saipan           | Lagoon & Reef             | Approved<br>06/22/2021           |
| 11. Big Boy Marine Sports, Inc.                                 | 05/27/2021<br>SLR-2018-X-081    | Personal Water Craft (PWC), Helmet Diving, Jetboard                  | Kanoa Resort Beach Area, Saipan               | Lagoon & Reef             | Approved<br>06/22/2021           |
| 12. Akhil Chandra Mollick dba Ichiban Marine Sports             | 05/27/2021<br>SLR-2018-X-079-R4 | Banana Boat, Wakeboarding, Kayaking                                  | Saipan & Managaha Lagoon, Saipan              | Lagoon & Reef             | Approved<br>06/22/2021           |
| 13. Deep Blue Sea Corporation                                   | 05/28/2021<br>SLR-2018-X-089-R4 | SCUBA Diving Tour Operation & Instruction                            | All Designated Dive Sites, Saipan & Tinian    | Lagoon & Reef             | Approved<br>06/21/2021           |
| 14. Sydney J. Takahashy dba Fishguyz SCUBA & Charter            | 05/28/2021<br>SLR-2018-X-141-R4 | SCUBA Diving Tour Operation  | All Designated Dive Sites, Saipan             | Lagoon & Reef             | Approved<br>06/22/2021           |
| 15. Dive Marianas Corporation dba Dive Saipan                   | 05/28/2021<br>SLR-2018-X-088-R4 | SCUBA Diving Tour operation/ Instruction                             | All Designated Dive Sites, Saipan             | Lagoon & Reef             | Approved<br>6/21/2021            |
| 16. Hi-Five Co., LTD.   | 05/28/2021<br>SLR-2018-X-115-R4 | Snorkeling Tour Operation  | All Designated Dive Sites, Saipan             | Lagoon & Reef             | Approved<br>06/22/2021           |
| 17. Diving Shop Light House Inc.                                | 05/28/2021<br>SLR-2018-X-169-R4 | SCUBA Diving Tour Operation/ Instruction                             | All Designated Dive Sites, Saipan             | Lagoon & Reef             | Approved<br>06/15/2021           |
| 18. Micronesia Resort, Inc. dba Kensington Hotel                | 05/28/2021<br>SLR-2018-X-185-R4 | Sailing, Snorkeling, Stand Up Paddle Boarding, Kayaking              | Lagoon Area Fronting Kensington Hotel         | Lagoon & Reef             | Approved<br>06/22/2021           |
| 19. Time Creation Corporation                                   | 05/28/2021<br>SLR-2018-X-070-R4 | SCUBA Diving Tour Operation/ Instruction                             | All Designated Dive Sites, Saipan             | Lagoon & Reef             | Approved<br>06/22/2021           |
| 20. Luana Inc. dba Heart of Gold Divers                         | 05/28/2021<br>SLR-2018-X-163-R3 | SCUBA Diving Tour Operation/ Instruction                             | Grotto, Obyan, Wing Beach, Laulau Bay         | Lagoon & Reef             | Approved<br>06/22/2021           |
| 21. Zen Corporation dba Aqua Marine Sports & Production Company | 06/01/2021<br>SLR-2018-X-065-R4 | Kayaking, Stand Up Paddle Boarding, Snorkeling, Sailing, Windsurfing | Achugao-San Roque Beach Area & Grotto, Saipan | Lagoon & Reef             | Approved<br>06/22/2021           |
| 22. Saipan International Dive Center                            | 06/01/2021<br>SLR-2018-X-086-R4 | SCUBA Diving Instruction Saipan                                      | All Designated Sites,                         | Lagoon & Reef             | Approved<br>06/22/2021           |
| 23. Aquaville, Inc.   | 05/25/2021<br>SLR-2018-X-146-R4 | Banana Boat, Sea Walker  | Saipan & Mariagaha Lagoon                     | Lagoon & Reef             | Approved<br>06/21/2021           |
| 24. Aquaville, Inc.   | 05/25/2021<br>SLR-2018-X-145-R4 | SCUBA Diving Tour Operation/ Instruction, Hydrobob                   | Saipan & Mariagaha Lagoon                     | Lagoon & Reef             | Approved<br>06/21/2021           |
| 25. Auto Marine, Inc.   | 05/25/2021<br>SLR-2018-X-113-R4 | Banana Boat, Parasailing, Seawalker                                  | Saipan & Mariagaha Lagoon                     | Lagoon & Reef             | Approved<br>06/21/2021           |
| 26. Thank You Saipan  | 05/27/2021<br>SLR-2018-X-072-R4 | SCUBA Diving Tour/Instruction, Seawalker, Snorkeling                 | All Designated Dive Sites & Mariagaha Lagoon  | Lagoon & Reef             | Approved<br>06/22/2021           |
| 27. Ben & Ki Watersports, LLC                                   | 05/28/2021<br>SLR-2018-X-139-R4 | Personal Water Craft (PWC), Snorkeling                               | Fiesta Resort Beach Area, Saipan              | Lagoon & Reef             | Approved<br>06/22/2021           |
| 28. Ben & Ki Watersports, LLC                                   | 05/28/2021<br>SLR-2018-X-140-R4 | Banana Boat, Wakeboarding  | Saipan & Mariagaha Lagoon                     | Lagoon & Reef             | Approved<br>06/22/2021           |
| 29. Ocean Sports Corporation                                    | 05/28/2021<br>SLR-2018-X-116-R4 | SCUBA Diving Tour Operation  | All Designated Dive Sites, Saipan             | Lagoon & Reef             | Approved<br>06/22/2021           |
| 30. JB International Holdings Ltd. dba Uncle J Dive             | 05/28/2021<br>SLR-2020-X-013-R3 | SCUBA Diving Tour Operation  | Laulau Bay, Obyan Beach, Grotto               | Lagoon & Reef             | Approved<br>06/22/2021           |
| 31. Marianas Seas Adventure, Inc.                               | 06/01/2021<br>SLR-2018-X-071-R4 | SCUBA Diving Tour Operation/ Instruction                             | All Designated Dive Sites                     | Lagoon & Reef             | Approved<br>06/22/2021           |
| 32. Micronesia Resort, Inc. Kensington Hotel Saipan             | 05/25/2021<br>SSCHm-2021-032    | Demolition of Storage Building                                       | San Roque, Saipan                             | Shoreline, Coastal Hazard | Approved*<br>05/26/2021          |
| 33. Department of Public Works                                  | 05/27/2021<br>SMS-2021-033      | Route 302 Improvement & Drainage Installation                        | Naftan, Saipan                                | Major Siting              | Certified Complete<br>06/29/2021 |
| 34. Division of Coastal Resources Management                    | 06/10/2021<br>STRSLRm-2021-034  | CNMI 1st Annual Ocean Fair   | Susupe, Saipan                                | Shoreline, Lagoon & Reef  | Approved*<br>06/11/2021          |
| 35. Big Eye, LLC  | 05/26/2021<br>STLR-2021-035     | SCUBA Diving Tour Operation/ Instruction                             | All Designated Dive Sites, Saipan & Tinian    | Lagoon & Reef             | Approved*<br>06/21/2021          |
| 36. Micronesia Resort, Inc.                                     | 06/09/2021<br>SMS-85-X-25-A1    | Construction of 2, Two-Story Storage Rooms                           | San Roque, Saipan                             | Major Siting Amendment    | Approved<br>06/21/2021           |
| 37. Department of Public Works                                  | 06/22/2021<br>SSm-2021-036      | Construction of Five Concrete Picnic Tables                          | Saipan & Tinian Lagoon                        | Shoreline                 | Approved*<br>06/30/2021          |
| 38. U.S. Department of Navy                                     | 06/23/2021<br>STLR-2021-037     | Underwater Site Inspection of Tinian Mortar Range                    | Saipan & Tinian Lagoon                        | Lagoon & Reef             | Approved*<br>06/25/2021          |
| 39. Bo Sea Corporation dba Gold Beach Hotel Saipan              | 06/24/2021<br>SSm-2021-038      | Parking Lot & Flower Bed Improvements                                | Garapan, Saipan                               | Shoreline                 | Approved*<br>06/30/2021          |
| 40. World Corporation dba Saipan World Resort                   | 06/29/2021<br>SSm-2021-039      | Removal of Concrete Foundation (Demolition)                          | Susupe, Saipan                                | Shoreline                 | Under Review*                    |
| 41. M/V Super Emerald LLC dba M/V Super Emerald                 | 07/01/2021<br>SPIm-2021-040     | Drydock  | Lower Base, Saipan                            | Ports & Industrial        | Under Review*                    |

NMIAC §15-10-210 of the CRM Rules and Regulations requires all permit applications to be published in a newspaper for general circulation within the CNMI within 15 days of receipt of application. The list reflects recently received permit applications and those with a recent change in status. New applications are marked with an asterisk (\*).

The Public is invited to submit written comments regarding any of the above projects for which a permit decision has not been issued. All permit comments should identify the project by application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the DCRM Office. All persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting a written request for a public hearing to the DCRM Office within fourteen (14) days for minor permits (APCs) and proposed amended major sitings. Public Hearings are required for all new major siting projects. All public hearing notices are published in a local newspaper of general circulation. Residents of Rota and Tinian may submit comments and hearing requests to their local DCRM Coordinator. Persons wishing to retain the right to appeal a DCRM Permit decision must file a notice of appeal with the DCRM office within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the DCRM permit decision as provided in Part 200 § 15-10-235 of the DCRM Regulations.



# TSL Foundation supports LibDay fête with \$5K donation



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Saipan Mayor's David Apatang, fourth from left, and his staff receive the donation for the fireworks display for the Liberation Day celebration from the Tan Siu Lin Foundation led by its executive director Merlie Tolentino, third from left, in a turnover ceremony last week at the TanHoldings conference room in Garapan.

The Tan Siu Lin Foundation has donated \$5,000 to the Saipan Mayor's Office to help celebrate Liberation Day with fireworks display this Sunday at the Garapan Fishing Base.

In absence of the traditional Fourth of July festivities on island, there will be a 15- to 20-minute fireworks display to commemorate one of the most important dates in American history.

Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang had to rescind the earlier proposal to have Liberation Day activities for five

days this year due to lack of time. "It takes at least four months to prepare for the parade and other activities. Although we won't have the usual 4th of July festivities, we will still commemorate this important event with fireworks display. We encourage everyone to watch the show from their homes or to those who are coming to the Garapan Fishing Base area, please stay in your parked car or in a safe distance away from the venue of the firework display," Apatang said.

"We join the rest of the community in commemorating the Fourth of July and recognizing the people who made it possible for us to celebrate this important day. Let's continue to advocate for peace and freedom that our heroes worked hard for to achieve," TSL Foundation executive director Merlie Tolentino said.

Apatang thanked the TSL Foundation for their continued support to the Saipan Mayor's Office and its projects. (PR)



## Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Department of Labor

Office of the Secretary  
1356 Mednilla Avenue | Capitol Hill | P.O. Box 10007 | Saipan, MP 96950  
Phone: (670) 664-3196 | Fax: (670) 664-3197 | Web: [www.marianaslabor.net](http://www.marianaslabor.net)



# NOTICE TO EMPLOYERS

**Attention:** The Total Workforce Listing for the 2nd Quarter 2021 is due on or before July 31, 2021. Online submissions are required to be emailed to [documents@marianaslabor.net](mailto:documents@marianaslabor.net) (in Excel format).

In accordance with Employment Rules and Regulations of the Northern Mariana Islands Administrative Code (NMIAC), the CNMI Department of Labor (CNMI DOL) mandates compliance of the following for all eligible private sector employers. Failure or refusal to comply is cause for CNMI DOL to issue a Notice of Violation to the employer which may result in fines and other sanctions following a due process hearing in the Administrative Hearing Office.

### 1. Post Job Vacancy Announcement (JVA) on CNMI DOL website

An employer who intends to employ a foreign national worker, transitional worker, or nonimmigrant alien on a full-time basis (under any new employment arrangement, any renewal of any existing employment arrangement, or any transfer) must post a Job Vacancy Announcement (JVA) on the CNMI DOL website at [www.marianaslabor.net](http://www.marianaslabor.net). NMIAC § 80-20.1-225(a). No waiver is available for the job vacancy announcement requirement. NMIAC § 80-20.1-225(e).

### 2. Submit Total Workforce Listing

Each business employer **shall report quarterly**, as of the last day of the calendar quarter, **the number of employees, job classification, and the hourly wage** of employees for whom wages were paid during the quarter. NMIAC § 80-20.1-505(b) (emphasis added). The Department requires employers to present this information in a document called "Total Workforce Listing," via email: [documents@marianaslabor.net](mailto:documents@marianaslabor.net) (Excel format).

The Total Workforce Listing is due each quarter:

|                                   |                       |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1st Quarter (January – March)     | due by April 30       |
| <b>2nd Quarter (April – June)</b> | <b>due by July 31</b> |
| 3rd Quarter (July – September)    | due by October 31     |
| 4th Quarter (October – December)  | due by January 31     |

### 3. Adhere to Workforce Participation Minimum Percentage requirement

Any employer, unless exempt, who employs workers on a full-time basis must certify that 30% or more of its full-time employees are U.S. citizens, U.S. permanent residents, and/or CNMI permanent residents. 3 CMC § 4525 and NMIAC § 80-20.1-210(c)(3). Failure to maintain a minimum percentage of 30% will result in a Notice of Violation filed against the employer.

### 4. Submit new or updated Workforce Plan

All employers who employ nonimmigrant alien workers, unless exempt, must submit a new or updated Workforce Plan every twelve months. NMIAC § 80-20.1-510(c). A workforce plan shall identify specific positions currently occupied by a foreign national worker and timetable for accomplishing the replacement of the foreign national worker with qualified U.S. citizens, CNMI permanent residents, and U.S. permanent residents until the workforce participation objective is met. NMIAC § 80-20.1-510(b). *The Workforce Plan form is available on the CNMI DOL website under Forms & Publications at [www.marianaslabor.net](http://www.marianaslabor.net).*

### SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR EMPLOYERS WITH MULTI-ISLAND JOB SITES

An employer with multiple island job sites in any of the Mariana Islands must submit a separate report for each island. For example, if an organization employs workers for job sites in Saipan and Tinian then the employer must file two separate quarterly compliance reports (one for Saipan and another for Tinian).

- ☒ Rota employers must email the Total Workforce Listing and Workforce Plan to [documents@marianaslabor.net](mailto:documents@marianaslabor.net) **and** [dolrota@gmail.com](mailto:dolrota@gmail.com) OR delivered to the Rota DOL Field Office at Old Rota High School Campus, Liyo Village.
- ☒ Tinian employers must email the Total Workforce Listing and Workforce Plan to [documents@marianaslabor.net](mailto:documents@marianaslabor.net) **and** [tinianlabordepartment@gmail.com](mailto:tinianlabordepartment@gmail.com) OR delivered to the Tinian DOL Field Office at Edu's Plaza, 1st Floor, San Jose Village.

### SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR ALL EMPLOYERS WHOSE OPERATIONS WERE AFFECTED BY THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Indicate the employment status on the Total Workforce Listing of those employee that are currently on furlough, laid off or working reduce hours as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
**HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONS LICENSING BOARD**  
P.O. Box 502078, Bldg., 1242 Pohnpei Court  
Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950  
Tel No: (670) 664-4809 Fax: (670) 664-4814  
Email: [cnmi@cnmibpl-hcplb.net](mailto:cnmi@cnmibpl-hcplb.net)  
Website: [cnmibpl-hcplb.net](http://cnmibpl-hcplb.net)



Pursuant to P.L. 8-41, Section 11, Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Arnold I. Palacios, through the Health Care Professions Licensing Board (HCPLB) are hereby giving notice that it will hold its regular monthly board meeting on **Wednesday, July 7, 2021 at 8am** on Saipan. The meeting will be held at the Administration Building, Governor's Conference Room on Capitol Hill.

### AGENDA

- I. Meeting Call to Order
- II. Determination of Quorum
- III. Review and Adoption of Agenda
- IV. Review and Adoption of Minutes (05/19/2021)
- V. Public Comments
- VI. Chairperson's Report
- VII. Director's Report
  - Update on the 4 proposed regulations (public comments)
  - Update on the amendment to P.L. 15-105 – Removal of Limited Terms for HCPLB
- VIII. Investigator's Report
- IX. Communications from the Governor's Office & Legislature
  - A. Governor's Office
  - B. Legislature
- X. Old Business
  - P. Biukoto
- XI. New Business
- XII. Pending Applications for Board's Review
  - A. New Application
    - Dr. E. Chang – Physician
    - Dr. S. Shushunov – Physician
  - B. Renewal Applications
- XIII. Miscellaneous Business
- XIV. Executive Session: The Board may vote to meet in executive session to consult with Counsel on pending or anticipated legal matters.
- XV. Announcements
  - A. Next Meeting Date
  - B. Adjournment of Meeting



**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY**  
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION



### REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL RFP21-CHCC/FACILITY-002

### DESIGN/BUILD SERVICE FOR THE 3-LEVEL PARKING GARAGE

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation (CHCC) is soliciting sealed proposals from prospective firms to provide Professional Services for Architectural and Construction of CHCC's 3-Level Parking Garage Project.

This procurement is in accordance with the CHCC procurement Regulations. Proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with CHCC §140-80.1-210 (Competitive Sealed Proposals of the CHCC Procurement Regulations).

The Request for Proposals and Scope of Work is available on June 4th, 2021, online at [www.chcc.gov.mp](http://www.chcc.gov.mp), navigate to the RFP tab on the left navigation bar, click on the URL for this **RFP21-CHCC/FACILITY-002**.

Inquiries regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing via email to Ms. Cora P. Ada, Director of Procurement at [cora.ada@chcc.health](mailto:cora.ada@chcc.health) no later than June 25th, 2021.

#### Selection Criteria:

- Technical criteria**
  - i. 25% Experience and Qualifications in similar or related projects
  - ii. 25% Technical approach to meet deliverables and meet timelines of the project. Must be financially stable and must have adequate equipment and tools.
  - iii. 25% Project Approach - demonstrate understanding and ability to meet requirements
  - iv. 25% Cost Proposal

The successful proposer will be subjected to a responsibility determination in accordance with CHCC Procurement Regulations §140-80.1-245.

Please email your proposal to Ms. Corazon P. Ada, Director, CHCC Division of Procurement and Supply, at [cora.ada@chcc.health](mailto:cora.ada@chcc.health) or submit five (5) hard copies including original copy, **no later than 10:00 AM Chamorro Standard Time (CHST) on July 5th, 2021** at the CHCC Main Campus Office. Proposals received after the date and time will not be accepted.

#### Please note submission instructions:

- All submissions must include the **RFP21-CHCC/FACILITY-02** and Project Title in the email subject.
- All documents must be submitted in Adobe PDF Format.
- All pages of your proposal must include the RFP # and Project Title in the header, plus page number in the footer.

Failure to follow the instructions regarding the submission of RFP responses may result in the CHCC's choice to disqualify such proposals.

/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA  
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ CORAZON P. ADA  
DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY



# NMC to help DOC with Corrections Academy

By JOSHUA SANTOS

joshua\_santos@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Northern Marianas College has agreed to hold a Corrections Academy for cadets applying to join the CNMI Department of Corrections.

NMC, represented by former interim president of NMC Frankie M. Eliptico, signed a memorandum of agreement with DOC, represented by DOC Commissioner Wally F. Villagomez, last Wednesday at the college's Board of Regents conference room that makes

official a joint operation between the two institutions to run the Corrections Academy. Part of the agreement allows for DOC cadets who complete the academy to receive 40 college credits that could go toward earning a criminal justice degree at the college.

Also present at the signing was Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios in his capacity as acting governor.

DOC's responsibilities to NMC in accordance with the agreement include providing the college with DOC staff

and instructors to oversee the academy, as well as providing instructional equipment such as emergency vehicles, ammunition, firearms, vans, tactical gear, uniforms, and other equipment as needed. DOC will also comply with applicable NMC policies and procedures.

NMC's responsibilities to DOC include making available the college's many resources to DOC cadets, providing a certificate of completion and giving the appropriate amount of college credits toward a

criminal justice degree upon finishing the Corrections Academy, and guaranteeing that it will comply with the DOC's Training Rules and Regulations.

Palacios sees the academy as an opportunity to maintain ethical, respectful, and constitutional interactions between Corrections officers and inmates, and commended NMC for its partnerships with many other government agencies on Saipan.

"We want to make sure that the members of our community that are incarcerated are

treated in the most respectful manner as [called for] by our Constitution," he said. Eliptico welcomed the DOC personnel who were present and briefly mentioned past MoA's that NMC has signed with the Department of Public Safety, Department of Fire & Emergency Medical Services, and the Department of

Villagomez said that talks between the DOC and NMC to create an MoA took place some time ago and he is happy to see the agreement come to fruition last Wednesday.

## BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT



Happy 65th birthday to our mom, Diana T. Camacho, and happy 4th of July! Greetings come from Paul/Eling and children.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



## NORTHERN MARIANAS TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

P.O. Box 504880 Saipan MP 96950  
Tel. No.: (670) 235-6684

**Board of Trustees Special Meeting**  
NMTI Facility, Lower Base  
July 06, 2021 @ 5:00 p.m.

## AGENDA

- I. Meeting Called to Order
- II. Adoption of Agenda
- III. Adoption of Minutes
  - a) April 9, 2021
  - b) March 20, 2021
  - c) March 22, 2021
  - d) May 12, 2021
- IV. Public Comments
- V. Unfinished Business
- VI. CEO Report
- VII. Financial Documentations Request
- VIII. Executive Session
- IX. Discussion of By-laws and Policies
- X. New Business
  - a) Establish Sub-Committees: Executive, Finance, Resource Development
- XI. Adjournment

**NOTE:** Copies of this notice and agenda have been posted at the Administration Building Entrance Hall, the House of Representatives Entrance Hall and the Senate Entrance Hall. Written comments on the agenda may be submitted to the Northern Marianas Technical Institute or emailed to: [nmtitechnicalinstitute@gmail.com](mailto:nmtitechnicalinstitute@gmail.com) on or before the meeting date. Oral testimony may be presented during the meeting on TBD.

## Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of the Secretary of Public Works

2nd Floor Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan, MP 96950



## NOTICE TO ADJACENT LANDOWNERS ALONG THE ROUTE 302 NAFTAN ROAD

**CRM APPLICATION NO:**  
**PROJECT:**

**SMS-2021-033**

**ROUTE 302 (NAFTAN ROAD)**

**IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS (DPW)**

**APPLICANT:**

The Department of Public Works (DPW), in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is proposing to construct road improvements along Route 302 (Naftan Road) on the Southeastern side of Saipan.

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Route 302 (Naftan Road) Improvement project includes Two (2) Lanes paved road with paved shoulder/bike lane on each side of the roadway. This project loops in the southern-most part of the island and traverses along the perimeter fence of the Saipan International Airport runway intersecting with Route 304 (Flame Tree Road) having a distance of approximately 2.50 miles.

The public and island visitors would benefit the improved roadway access connecting Dandan Village and nearby historical sites in Ladder and Obyan beaches.

The public hearing for this project is scheduled to take place on **Thursday, July 15, 2021, at 5:00PM** at the **BECQ 2nd Floor Main Conference Room** on Middle Road in Lower Gualo Rai, Saipan. Due to the ongoing threat of COVID-19 and to ensure the health and safety of all, virtual public participation is highly encouraged via video conferencing through Zoom Meeting <https://zoom.us/j/97781240647> or join via telephone by calling the DCRM Office at (670) 664-8300 for connection assistance. Zoom Meeting access code may change. Please call DCRM for an update.

Written comments can be submitted by mail to the Division of Coastal Resources Management, P.O. Box 501304, sent by fax to 664-8315, or emailed to [permitting@dcrm.gov.mp](mailto:permitting@dcrm.gov.mp).

Please contact the DCRM at 664-8300 if you have any questions or would like to learn more about the Route 302 Road Improvement project.



**PROPOSED ROUTE 302  
(NAFTAN ROAD) & ROUTE 304  
(FLAME TREE ROAD)  
IMPROVEMENTS  
Total Length = 2.50 miles**

/s/ JAMES A. ADA  
Secretary  
Department of Public Works



## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS CNMI GOVERNMENT

### INVITATION TO BID ITB NO.: DPW21-ITB-028

SUBMISSION DATE: April 11, 2021 TIME: 9:30 A.M.

### "Route 30 (Chalan Pale Arnold) and Kopa Di Oru Intersection Improvements and Intersection of Traffic Signal System"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, LOCATED ON SECOND FLOOR, OLEAI JOETEN COMMERCIAL CENTER, SAN JOSE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

The project package will be available on or after **July 02, 2021** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **July 21, 2021, 9:00 a.m.** local time at the **DPW Conference Room 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center Office, Saipan**. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All question regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **July 28, 2021** to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/s/ JAMES A. ADA  
SECRETARY, DPW

/s/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON  
ACTING DIRECTOR,  
DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES



**Finance Manager**

Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games 2022

**Job Description:**

Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games 2022 Organizing Committee wishes to recruit a Finance Manager to be responsible for financial management of the NMPMG2022. The Finance Manager will be report directly to the CEO. Finance Manager is a key senior management position requiring the services of an experienced and competent individual to facilitate NMPMG2022 financial planning, analysis and projection for games; forecast future revenues and expenditures to establish cost structures and determine capital budgeting for event. Works with Office of the CNMI Secretary of Finance and other executive-level team members to set organizing committee investment direction and policies.

**Duties and Responsibilities:**

Finance Manager leverage strong accounting and compliance backgrounds to explore historical financial data, predict future results and drive process and policy improvements. Day-to-day responsibilities for games financial include:

- Analyzing current games financial data and performance
- Preparing games reports and projections based on this analysis
- Evaluating current games capital expenditures and depreciation
- Exploring games investment opportunities
- Establishing and evaluating financial analysis plans
- Identifying trends in games financial performance and providing recommendations for improvement
- Coordinating with other game organizing committee members of the finance team to review financial information and forecasts
- Providing game financial models and forecasting

**Finance Manager should possess the following essential qualities.**

- Expert-level analytical and financial modeling skills
- Strategic thinking
- Great presentation skills
- Ability to influence and persuade
- Knowledge of ERP systems and related technologies
- Excellent time management and organizational ability
- Ability to multitask and meet constant deadlines
- Willingness to work long hours, when necessary

**Required education for Finance Manager**

At a minimum, financial manager is expected to hold a bachelor's degree in accounting, finance, statistics, economics, business administration or another related field.

**Salary:** \$50,000 per year (Aug. 2021-July 2022)

**Language:** Fluency in English; Chamorro and or Carolinian an advantage

**How to Apply:** If you meet the above requirement and are interested in the position, please send a resume or curriculum vitae along with a cover letter to the following postal or email address:

**POSTAL MAIL:** Finance Manager NMPMG2022 Application  
P.O. Box 502476, Saipan, MP 96950

**EMAIL:** vicente.babauta@gmail.com or marianassports@gmail.com

All application must be received no later than 5:00pm, July 15, 2021.

**Contact Person:**

Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games 2022, GOC Chairman Marco Peter  
Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games 2022, CEO Vicente "Ben" Babauta



## Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



### REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CUC-RFP-21-016

#### SUPPLY, INSTALLATION AND COMMISSIONING OF A 1.5 MW TRAILER MOUNTED DIESEL GENERATING SET WITH ENCLOSURE FOR THE CUC POWER PLANT NO. 3, SAIPAN, CNMI

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified firms for the Supply, Installation and Commissioning of a 1.5 Mega Watt Trailer Mounted Diesel Generating Set with Enclosure for the CUC Power Plant No. 3 Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The RFP Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one RFP package set. The RFP package consisting of the specifications and plans for the project, will be provided in a CD or emailed to the registered email ID. Prospective Proposers must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division.

**One (1) original and five (5) hard copies, along with an electronic copy of the proposal on a compact disk in PDF format or USB Drive,** must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-21-016, Supply, Installation and Commissioning of a 1.5 MW Trailer Mounted Diesel Generating Set with Enclosure for the CUC Power Plant No. 3, Saipan, CNMI" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than July 30, 2021 at 10:00 AM (ChST).** Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

A Proposal Guarantee of not less than fifteen (15%) percent of the total proposal price must accompany the proposal. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety.

A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Offerors are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page: <https://marianaslabor.net/>. The proponents shall be required to comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on July 14, 2021** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address [manny.sablan@cucgov.org](mailto:manny.sablan@cucgov.org) with a copy to CUC's Water Utility Coordinator, Yvonne C. Ogumoro via email address [yvonne.ogumoro@cucgov.org](mailto:yvonne.ogumoro@cucgov.org), CUC's Power Generation Manager, Richard Cano via email address [richard.cano@cucgov.org](mailto:richard.cano@cucgov.org) and Christie Sablan, CUC's Senior Purchasing Technician via email address [christie.sablan@cucgov.org](mailto:christie.sablan@cucgov.org).

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

WILLIAM B. GILMORE  
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN  
Purchasing Administrator



## Commonwealth Utilities Corporation



### Job Vacancy Announcement JVA No. 21 – 043

Opening Date: May 11, 2021 • Closing Date: Until Filled

|                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| <b>POSITION TITLE:</b> | <b>Engineer</b>                                     |
| <b>DEPARTMENT:</b>     | <b>Water &amp; Wastewater Division</b>              |
| <b>LOCATION:</b>       | <b>Saipan, Northern Marianas Islands, USA</b>       |
| <b>ANNUAL SALARY:</b>  | <b>\$40,084.00 to \$54,113.00 per annum, Exempt</b> |
| <b>CONTRACT:</b>       | <b>Contracted</b>                                   |
| <b>POSITION(S):</b>    | <b>Two (2)</b>                                      |

The incumbent will be under the direct supervision of the Chief Engineer or his/her designee. Position is assigned to both routine and simple water and sewer facilities and projects.

**Duties:**

- To perform field measurements for distance, elevation, flows, pressures and other elements related to water and sewer system designs, including configuration of water/sewer facilities, utilizing surveying equipment and GIS system.
- Design size and length of water mains, capacity (pumping rate and head) of booster stations, size, slope, and distance of sewer gravity mains and force mains, size, pumping capacity, and liquid level control of Lift stations.
- Design drawings to portray facilities to be constructed based on completed design and specification preparation for water systems and water sources, transmission and distribution pipelines and storage tank, including wastewater systems and facilities sewer lines, sewer pumping stations and treatment plants.
- Writes reports for engineering feasibility analysis, evaluations, such as water and wastewater flow, well production, water loss, electrical consumption, system hydraulics.
- Prepare scopes of work for a variety of A&E consultant services related to existing and proposed water and sewer systems; Analysis of water system operation performance by pressure zone.
- Operations support such as review of operating mode and system configuration, water leaks detection, repairs and recovery of water loss.
- Ensure proper installation and monitoring of pilot control system using supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA).
- Effects repairs to multiple emergency power generators for the wastewater lift stations;
- Responsible for overseeing the engineering aspect of the water and wastewater system operations modifications, maintenance and repairs.
- Performs other duties of a similar nature and level as assigned.

**Minimum Requirements:**

**Education:** Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil, Environmental, or Mechanical Engineering and four years of related engineering experience.

**Knowledge of:** Engineering principles and practices; mathematical, pumping and hydraulics, and wastewater conveyance and treatment concepts; project management principles; construction techniques; safe work practices; applicable Federal, State, and/or Local laws, rules, and regulations.

**Skills in:** Interpreting and applying Federal, State, and/or Local laws, rules, and regulations; reading, understanding, and preparing drawings for construction contracts; preparing a variety of technical reports and/or documentation; presenting technical information to management, public groups, and other related individuals; interpreting and preparing specifications; estimating construction costs; conducting studies. Able to use computers and related software applications; communicate, interact with co-workers, supervisor, contractors, representatives of other agencies and departments, and the general public to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction; use AutoCAD to prepare plans for utility projects and contracts is a plus. Registration as an Engineer-In-Training in the CNMI, Guam, or any State of the United States is preferred but not required. Applicants licensed as a Professional Engineer in the CNMI, Guam, or any State of the United States is encouraged to apply.

- **Licensing:**
  - Valid CNMI Driver's License with appropriate class.
- **Physical Demands:**
  - Occasional lifting of objects; Subject to standing, walking, sitting, bending, reaching, kneeling, pushing and pulling.

All applicants may be tested and all applicants are subject to pre-employment drug test.

How to Apply: Submit a completed CUC Employment Application, resume, and applicable supporting documents to the CUC Human Resources office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan, Monday through Friday 7:30 am – 4:30 pm (Except Legal Holidays). Applicants on the island of Tinian and Rota may submit their documents to their respective CUC Administration office. Application, resume and supporting documents can also be e-mailed to: [employment.applications@cucgov.org](mailto:employment.applications@cucgov.org)

*An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.*



## Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Program

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514

Email: [nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp](mailto:nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp) • Website: <http://www.nmhc.gov.net>



Ralph DLG. Torres  
Governor

Arnold I. Palacios  
Lt. Governor

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT AND HEARING

*This ad is paid for by NMHC funds.*

Notice is hereby given that the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) is the designated Public Housing Authority (PHA) authorized to administer the Housing Choice Voucher Program in the CNMI. Federal guidelines provide that the CNMI prepared a PHA Five Year Plan for the upcoming five years. NMHC has not made any changes to the goals, objectives and policies on the Five Year Plan that was submitted and approved. Therefore, NMHC would like to inform the general public that:

1. NMHC will conduct a public hearing to solicit comments from the public for the Five Year PHA Plan on July 12, 2021, 3:00 p.m. at NMHC's Conference Room located at the main office in Garapan, Saipan; and
2. NMHC will open the public comment period from May 25, 2021 through July 12, 2021; written comments must be submitted by 4:30 p.m. on July 12, 2021 to:

- Northern Marianas Housing Corporation  
Attn: PHA Five Year Plan  
P.O. Box 500514  
Saipan, MP 96950

Any interested persons wishing to express their views on the Five year PHA Plan may do so by either attending the public hearing or by submitting written comments to NMHC. Copies of the Five year PHA plan are available for viewing on our website at [www.nmhc.gov.net](http://www.nmhc.gov.net) and during normal business hours at the NMHC Main Office in Saipan, as well as the field offices on Tinian and Rota.

For more information on this program, please contact NMHC at 234-6866/7670/7689/9447.

/s/ JESSE S. PALACIOS  
Corporate Director

NMHC will make necessary arrangements for persons with disabilities or persons requiring interpreters upon prior notification. Should you require such arrangement, please contact Mr. Jacob Muna at telephone numbers 234-6866/7670/7689/9447.

**EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER**



# NMI awarded \$3.49M technical, maintenance assistance funding



## SHOE GIVEAWAY WINNER

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Pacifica Insurance Underwriters, Inc. health member Lorielyn Lacay secures the winning prize of a pair of premium shoes through the company's Shoe Giveaway campaign. In partnership with The Athlete's Foot, Lacay will also be given access to the MyFit foot analysis system that guarantees a pair that fits. Pacifica's Giveaway was designed to encourage its health insurance group members to continue living a healthy lifestyle. Open to members of the CNMI Government Group Health Insurance and private health groups under Pacifica. Giveaway will run until the end of July. Details about this Giveaway can be found on Pacifica's Facebook and Instagram pages.

The Office of Insular Affairs has awarded the CNMI \$3,493,510 in grant funding under the fiscal year 2021 Technical Assistance Program and the Maintenance Assistance Program for the following priority projects:

- \$1,171,160 to the Department of Finance for the Revenue Management Information Tax System;

- \$363,736 to the Department of Finance for a CNMI Wide Valuation Report;

- \$265,500 to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. for an automated Water Read, Supply, and Lead Detection System Pilot Project;

- \$245,000 to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. for a feasibility study for a Wastewater Collection, Transmission, and Treatment System Project;

- \$241,431 to the Office of the Governor for a CNMI Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreational Planning Initiative;

- \$183,876 to the Office of the Governor for a Comprehensive Wetlands Management Plan;

- \$169,307 to the Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan for the House of Taga Restoration and Preservation Project;

- \$150,000 to the Office of the Governor for the Implementation of the Saipan Street Naming and Addressing Master Map;

- \$368,500 to the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) for the Jet Vac Sewer Cleaning Equipment Acquisition;

- \$150,000 to the Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan for the Backhoe Loader Acquisition; and

- \$185,000 to the Commonwealth Ports Authority for Maintenance equipment for the Tinian Airport and Port of Tinian.

Nikolao Pula, acting assistant secretary for Insular and International Affairs, recently informed Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres of the award.

■ The OIA also authorized the awarding of CARES Act funding to the Commonwealth \$581,749 for the Renovation and Improvements to the Laboratory Project.

"...We are very thankful

to [Pula] and OIA for their continued support of our community priorities and our ongoing recovery from the 2018 typhoon season and the COVID-19 pandemic," Torres said. **(PR)**

## TINIAN CASINO GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION

Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan  
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission (TCGCC) hereby gives notice that it will hold its Regular Meeting on Wednesday, July 7, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. at the TCGCC Conference Room.

### AGENDA

#### I. PRELIMINARY

- Call to Order
- Roll Call
- Adoption of Agenda
- Adoption of Minutes
  - January 8, 2021 – Regular Meeting

#### II. PUBLIC COMMENTS<sup>1</sup>

#### III. REPORTS

- Chair's Report
- Executive Director's Report

#### IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Licensing Matters
  - Bridge Investment Group LLC.
  - Matsui Asia, Limited

#### V. NEW BUSINESS

- Introduction of New Member

#### VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION<sup>2</sup>

#### VII. OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS

#### VIII. MISCELLANEOUS AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

#### IX. ADJOURNMENT

<sup>1</sup>Public comments are limited to 30 minutes and each remark is limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments.  
<sup>2</sup>Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Commission may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

## CARS FOR SALE

**10% OFF**  
Cars are sold from list price

Sales end July 5, 2021  
First Come, First Serve  
All Cars are displayed at Buy & Sell  
In CK Beach Road  
(In front of Surfrider Hotel)

**CNMI DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES**  
**CNMI GOVERNMENT**  
**INVITATION TO BID**  
**ITB NO.: ITB21-OGM-113**  
**SUBMISSION DATE: JULY 22, 2021 TIME: 09:00 A.M.**  
**"LEASE OF TWO (2) CLASS "F" PICK-UP TRUCK 4X4-4 DOOR FOR THE OFFICE OF GRANTS MANAGEMENT & STATE CLEARINGHOUSE"**  
COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES, LOCATED AT THE GOLD BEACH HOTEL, BUILDING NO. 103-105, CORNER PUPULU AND BEACH ROAD, BEACH ROAD GARAPAN, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.  
**\*\*FOR YOUR SAFETY & OURS: ALL INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS ARE REQUIRED TO USE A FACE MASK & ARE REQUIRED TO REGISTER UPON ENTRY\*\***  
THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.  
THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.  
**/S/ EPIPHANIO E. CABRERA, JR.**  
**ADMINISTRATOR, OFFICE OF GRANTS**  
**/S/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON**  
**ACTING DIRECTOR, P.S.**

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY**  
**COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION**  
**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**  
**RFP21-CHCC/HEMODIALYSIS-001**  
**SUBMISSION DEADLINE: JULY 5TH, 2021 TIME: 10:00PM (CHST)**  
**"DIALYSIS CENTER – HEMODIALYSIS & PERITONEAL DIALYSIS CONSUMABLE/DISPOSABLE SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT"**  
INTERESTED PARTIES CAN DOWNLOAD THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FROM THE CHCC WEBSITE [WWW.CHCC.GOV.MP]. ONCE AT THE SITE, NAVIGATE TO **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS** TAB ON THE LEFT NAVIGATION BAR. CLICK ON THE URL FOR THIS RFP. YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO ENTER DATA TO ALLOW US TO TRACK ALL REQUESTS FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY.  
THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSAL AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.  
**/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA**  
**CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**  
**/S/ CORAZON P. ADA**  
**DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY**

**Office of the Public Auditor**  
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
Website: <http://www.opacnmi.com>  
1236 Yap Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950  
**Job Vacancy Announcement**  
Opening Date: 6/18/21 Closing Date: 7/30/21  
**POSITION**  
Audit Manager  
**EXAMINATION NO.**  
OPA-21-004  
For more information, please visit our website at [www.opacnmi.com](http://www.opacnmi.com) or come visit us at our office in Capitol Hill. Interested persons may also pick up a copy of the Examination Announcement at the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) in Garapan.

**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands**  
**Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority**  
Office of the Governor  
**"Driving You Forward"**  
**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
The Honorable Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Honorable Lt. Governor Arnold I. Palacios through the Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority would like to notify the General Public of the 4-Year Federal-Aid Transportation Improvement Plan (TTIP) Amendment-1. A Copy of the plan can be obtained at the Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority. Written comments must be submitted directly to the Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority, 2nd Floor Suite 216, Marianas Business Plaza, Susupe or via email to: Special Assistant for Public Transportation, **Alfreda Camacho Maratita** at **alfredac.maratita@gov.mp** no later than **August 8, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.**  
Should you have any questions regarding COTA (TIP), you may contact the Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority at 664-2682.  
The Following are listed in the TTIP Amendment-1  
**CNMI Office of the Governor, The Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority 4-year Territorial Transportation Improvement Plan: PROJECT FUNDED BY: U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Transit Authority (FTA)**

| Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority (COTA)<br>Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) FY2020-2023 Amendment #1 |   |               |                       |                       |                       |                       |
|---|---|---------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| District  | Project Description   | Type of Work  | FY2020 FEDERAL        | FY2021 FEDERAL        | FY2022 FEDERAL        | FY2023 FEDERAL        |
| SAIPAN  | COTA Administrative Building & Maintenance Facility   | CM            | \$590,000.00          |                       |                       |                       |
|   |   | Construction  | \$3,500,000.00        |                       |                       |                       |
| SAIPAN  | A/E Design for the Fixed Route Bus Stops  | PE Design     |                       |                       | \$300,000.00          |                       |
| SAIPAN  | Supply & Installation of Thirty-Seven (37) Fixed Route Bus Stop Shelters  | Construction  |                       |                       | \$800,000.00          |                       |
|   |   | CM            |                       |                       | \$209,500.00          |                       |
| SAIPAN  | Purchase of Twelve (12) Medium-Duty ADA Compliant Mobility Equipped Transit Buses for the Fixed Route               | Rolling Stock |                       | \$2,102,967.00        |                       |                       |
| SAIPAN  | Construction of Bus Transfer Stations at the Northern Marianas College, Paseo De Marianas and Kagman                | PE Design     |                       |                       | \$70,000.00           |                       |
|   |   | Construction  |                       |                       |                       | \$700,000.00          |
| SAIPAN  | Supply of Maintenance Equipment & Tools for COTA Maintenance Facility   | CM            |                       |                       |                       | \$130,000.00          |
|   |   | Equipment     |                       |                       | \$400,000.00          |                       |
| SAIPAN  | Construction of the COTA Bus Covered Parking Structure  | PE Design     |                       |                       | \$351,000.00          |                       |
|   |   | Construction  |                       |                       |                       | \$2,700,000.00        |
|   |   | CM            |                       |                       |                       | \$300,000.00          |
| SAIPAN  | Supply & Installation of 187 Bus Stop Shelters on Public Transit Fixed Route  | PE Design     |                       |                       | \$350,000.00          |                       |
|   |   | Construction  |                       |                       |                       | \$3,500,000.00        |
|   |   | CM            |                       |                       |                       | \$650,000.00          |
| Rota  | Design & Construction of the Rota Transit Maintenance Facility  | PE Design     |                       |                       | \$40,000.00           |                       |
|   |   | Construction  |                       |                       |                       | \$400,000.00          |
|   |   | CM            |                       |                       |                       | \$80,000.00           |
| Tinian  | Design & Construction of the Tinian Transit Maintenance Facility  | PE Design     |                       |                       | \$40,000.00           |                       |
|   |   | Construction  |                       |                       |                       | \$400,000.00          |
|   |   | CM            |                       |                       |                       | \$80,000.00           |
| Rota & Tinian   | Procurement of Four (4) ADA Compliant Mobility Equipped Transit Vans for Rota and Tinian Demand Responsive Services | Rolling Stock |                       |                       | \$480,000.00          |                       |
| Saipan  | CNMI COVID-19 Research Demonstration  | Research      |                       |                       | \$300,000.00          |                       |
| <b>TOTAL OBLIGATION</b>   |   |               | <b>\$4,090,000.00</b> | <b>\$2,102,967.00</b> | <b>\$3,340,500.00</b> | <b>\$8,940,000.00</b> |

| Funding Source  | FY2020 FEDERAL        | FY2021 FEDERAL        | FY2022 FEDERAL        | FY2023 FEDERAL        |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| MP-04-0002-00 (Veterans Transportation One-Call/One-Click)                      | \$710,223.00          |                       |                       |                       |
| MP-2019-001-00 (49 U.S.C. Section 5339- Bus and Bus Facilities)                 | \$3,224,567.00        | \$2,102,967.00        | \$1,009,500.00        |                       |
| MP-18-X008-00 (Bus: Support Equipment, Facilities, and Operating Assistance)    | \$155,210.00          |                       |                       |                       |
| 49 U.S.C. Section 5324: Federal Transit Administration Emergency Relief Program |                       |                       | \$351,000.00          |                       |
| 49 U.S.C. Section 5312: Covid-19 Research Demonstration                         |                       |                       | \$300,000.00          |                       |
| H.R. 3684 INVEST in America Act   |                       |                       | \$1,680,000.00        | \$8,940,000.00        |
| <b>TOTAL OBLIGATION</b>   | <b>\$4,090,000.00</b> | <b>\$2,102,967.00</b> | <b>\$3,340,500.00</b> | <b>\$8,940,000.00</b> |



Life & Style

Bill Cosby freed from prison, his sex conviction overturned

**PHILADELPHIA** (AP)—Pennsylvania’s highest court threw out Bill Cosby’s sexual assault conviction and released him from prison Wednesday in a stunning reversal of fortune for the comedian once known as “America’s Dad,” ruling that the prosecutor who brought the case was bound by his predecessor’s agreement not to charge Cosby.

Cosby, 83, flashed the V-for-victory sign to a helicopter overhead as he trudged into his suburban Philadelphia home after serving nearly three years of a three- to 10-year sentence for drugging and violating Temple University sports administrator Andrea Constand in 2004.



Bill Cosby gestures outside his home in Elkins Park, Pa., Wednesday, June 30, 2021, after being released from prison. AP

The former “Cosby Show” star—the first celebrity tried and convicted in the #MeToo era—had no comment as he arrived, and just smiled and nodded later at a news conference outside, where his lawyer Jennifer Bonjean said: “We are thrilled to have Mr. Cosby home.” “He served three years of

an unjust sentence and he did it with dignity and principle,” she added.

In a statement, Constand and her lawyers called the ruling disappointing, and they, like many other advocates, expressed fear that it could discourage sexual assault victims from coming forward. “We urge all victims to have their voices heard,” they added.

William, Harry to unveil Diana statue as royal rift simmers

**LONDON** (AP)—They were once so close.

Princes William and Harry grew up together, supported each other after their mother’s untimely death and worked side by side as they began their royal duties—two brothers seemingly bonded for life by blood, tradition and tragedy.

But those links are now painfully strained as William sits in London defending the royal family from allegations of racism and insensitivity made by Harry and his wife, Meghan, from their new home in Southern California.

Royal watchers will be looking closely for any signs of a truce—or deepening rift—on Thursday when William and Harry unveil a statue of their mother, Princess Diana, on what would have been her 60th birthday. The event in the Sunken Garden at London’s Kensington Palace will be their second public meeting since Harry and Meghan stepped away from royal duties over a year ago.

Britney Spears’ father seeks court probe of her allegations

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—Britney Spears’ father has asked the court overseeing his daughter’s conservatorship to investigate her statements to a judge last week on the court’s control of her medical treatment and personal life, which she called overly restrictive and abusive.

James Spears emphasized in a pair of documents filed late Tuesday night that he has had no power over his daughter’s personal affairs for nearly two years.

His filing says the court must investigate “serious allegations regarding forced labor, forced medical treatment and therapy, improper medical care, and limitations on personal rights.”

“Given the nature of the allegations and claims, it is critical that the court confirm whether or not Ms. Spears’ testimony was accurate in order to determine what corrective actions, if any, need to be taken,” the documents said.

Opportunities abound for woman seeking to volunteer

**DEAR ABBY:** I’m writing in response to your answer to “Broke But Available” (March 23), the retired woman seeking ecological volunteer opportunities. I loved your reply and your suggestion to volunteer by providing education at a community center. In addition to community centers, many schools, scout troops, youth groups, nursing homes, etc., are always looking for knowledgeable people to provide information on a variety of topics.

Far too many individuals aren’t getting nearly enough—or ANY—information about ecology or learning ways to protect the beautiful natural world around us. I truly hope “BBA” will take you up on your suggestion by sharing something she cares about with others.

FORMER TEACHER IN NORTH CAROLINA

**DEAR ABBY**  
By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*



**DEAR FORMER TEACHER:** Thank you for your comments. I heard from volunteer experts across the country responding to that letter and offering excellent suggestions. Read on:

**DEAR ABBY:** Volunteers are needed to remove invasive species to protect our native ecosystems, to monitor streams for water quality, to pick up trash along our great rivers and to stabilize public trails. The letter writer should contact her state and national conservation departments about opportunities.

LINDA V. IN MISSOURI

**DEAR ABBY:** The retired lady could become an extension master gardener. EMG programs in all 50 states train volunteers through the state’s land grant university and its cooperative extension service. Master gardeners educate the public by operating speakers’ bureaus, maintaining demonstration gardens, staffing “hotlines” to answer gardening questions and running horticulture therapy programs.

PROUD PROGRAM PARTICIPANT

**DEAR ABBY:** In regard to the letter writer who is looking to volunteer doing something ecological, I would suggest she start at a local farmers’ market. People who are interested tend to gather there and have contacts that can lead to opportunities.

ED H. IN MASSACHUSETTS

**DEAR ABBY:** For the hands-on retiree looking for volunteer work, many churches have connections to work to be done. She should also visit VolunteerMatch ([volunteermatch.org](http://volunteermatch.org)), where she can see all the various types of volunteer jobs that are available in her area.


ELAINE IN KANSAS CITY

**DEAR ABBY:** I am a freshman in high school, and I just got heartbroken. This boy I liked played me, and I don’t know whether I should just accept the fact that he’s bad and move on or be sad and wait it out. I told him I’m not a Barbie doll he can pick up and play with when he’s bored, but I still like him. Do you have any advice for me?

BROKEN HEART IN OHIO

**DEAR BROKEN HEART:** Yes, I do. Be glad you see this person for exactly who he is—someone who cannot be relied upon—and move on. I think you said it very well when you told him you aren’t a toy to be played with. Now, learn from this experience and choose your next boyfriend accordingly.

Good advice for everyone – teens to seniors – is in “The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It.” To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM  
**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**  
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS  
Tel: (670) 664-2371 | Fax: (670) 664-2408 | Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950

**INVITATION TO BID**  
**ITB21-GOV-117**

**RENOVATION OF GOVERNMENT BUILDING NO. 1324 SAIPAN MP**  
**SUBMISSION DATE: 11:00 AM CHST, JULY 21, 2021**

Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Arnold I. Palacios, through the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) are soliciting sealed bids for the *Renovation of Government Building No. 1324* in Capitol Hill, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI). This project will be funded by the 702 Covenant funding under the U.S. Department of Interior, Office of Insular Affairs.

The project package will be available on **July 2, 2021** at the Office of Planning & Development, Suite No. 308 CDA Building in Oleai, Saipan, during regular working hours.

A mandatory Pre-Bid Conference will be held at the CNMI Scholarship Office, Building 1326 in Capitol Hill, Saipan, CNMI at **10:00 AM ChST July 12, 2021**. Proposers may request to participate via phone call or virtually five (5) days prior to the meeting scheduled. All attendees are required to use a face mask and exercise social distancing throughout the duration of the meeting.

Questions regarding this ITB may be submitted via email to Ms. Kayleena Seman at [kayleena.seman@opd.gov.mp](mailto:kayleena.seman@opd.gov.mp) no later than **4:30 PM ChST July 16, 2021**. All Questions & Answers will be shared with all prospective bidders.

Bidders located outside of the CNMI must fill out and submit the Notice of Intent to Bid Form to the Director of Procurement Services no later than **11:00 AM July 21, 2021**.

**THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS, AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.**

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/s/ **Ralph DLG. Torres**  
Governor, CNMI

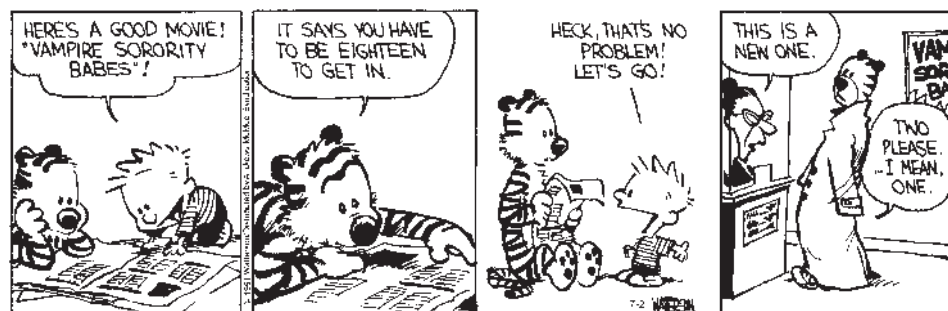
/s/ **Francisco C. Aguon**  
Acting Director, CNMI Procurement Services



# Pastimes

## Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



## Garfield®

By Jim Davis



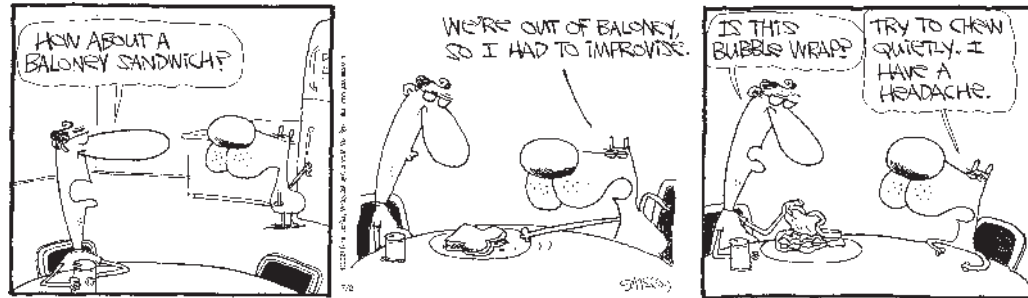
## Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



## The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



## CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

1 Defeats  
6 Domino spot  
9 Neb. neighbor  
12 "Dinah" singer  
13 Prior night  
14 Nabokov novel  
15 Paris school  
16 Backyard play area  
18 Football team  
20 Continental coin  
21 Pen tip  
23 Young fox  
24 Office records  
25 Cupid's alias  
27 Attorney's load  
29 Mexican state  
31 Take-home earnings  
35 Poet Federico Garcia

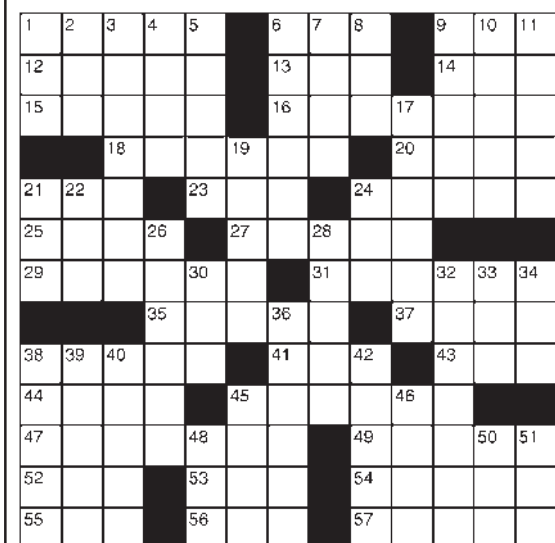
**DOWN**

1 Garden buzzer  
2 And so on (Abbr.)  
3 Container for pumps  
4 Relate  
5 Streamlined  
6 Old Spanish coin  
7 Tennis great  
8 Signing need  
9 Asian capital  
10 Worship  
11 Greek vacation isle  
17 Certain believers  
19 Parish leader  
21 "The Matrix" role  
22 Lyricist  
24 Service charge  
26 Job interview subject  
28 Big mix-up  
30 Army rank (Abbr.)  
32 Brimless hat  
33 "Where — you?"  
34 However  
36 Persuades  
38 College study  
39 Dodge  
40 Challenged  
42 Pamphlet  
45 Take a gander  
46 Big name in scat  
48 Buddy  
50 Employ  
51 Club

**Solution time: 25 mins.**

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| M | A | Y | A | L | A | B | T | G | I | F |
| A | L | A | S | E | M | O | R | C | B | E |
| T | C | R | I | G | A | S | I | T | A | L |
| T | U | N | D | R | A | C | A | V | O | R |
| E | E | L | R | I | O |   |   |   |   |   |
| Q | A | F | S | E | R | O | M | A | F | A |
| Q | V | A | E | E | N | A | H | I |   |   |
| F | A | R | M | T | E | A | M | W | R | A |
| T | I | M | A | L | E |   |   |   |   |   |
| D | A | H | L | I | A | R | O | B | O | T |
| E | V | E | L | P | E | S | C | A | K | E |
| S | I | S | I | P | E | I | A | H | O | T |
| K | A | T | E | N | M | U | S | S |   |   |

Yesterday's answer 7-2



## STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Margot Robbie, 31; Alex Morgan, 32; Ashley Tisdale, 36; Larry David, 74.

**Happy Birthday:** Keep your emotions in check this year, and the rest will be easy. Loyalty, dedication and ambition will help you reach your goal. Don't wait for opportunities to come to you. Make things happen, and you will be looked up to by those looking for leadership. Your destiny is in your hands. Focus on what you can achieve, not the impossible. Your numbers are 6, 10, 19, 26, 30, 39, 44.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Focus on the way you look and feel. Exercising, updating your appearance and spending time with the person who brings out the best in you will pay off. Determination and hard work will help you get ahead. Romance is in the stars. ★★★

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Take your time, and think about the consequences before you do or say something. If you don't like what's going on, be quick to back out of any situation that makes you feel uneasy. Take better care of your home, health and family. ★★★

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Listen carefully and choose your words wisely. Misunderstandings can turn your world upside down. Stick to the truth; don't take on something beyond your capability. A minimalist approach will help you budget your finances. Romance is featured. ★★★★

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Put what you know to good use. Refuse to let anyone play emotional games with you. Be blunt regarding what you want and what you are

willing to do. Refuse to let anyone or anything stand in your way. Make a change that counts. ★★

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Learn as you go, and make a difference. Your dedication and hard work will not go unnoticed. Be the spark, and you will encourage others to pitch in and help. Personal growth will lead to a brighter future, and romance is favored. ★★★★★

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Think before you say something you regret. Taking on too much responsibility or making a promise you cannot keep will cause a rift with someone you love and respect. Find out what someone expects and negotiate based on what's realistic. ★★★

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** You'll gravitate toward people who offer mental stimulation. The discussions you have will broaden your outlook and encourage you to make physical and emotional changes that improve your life. Personal encounters will lead to love and romance. ★★★

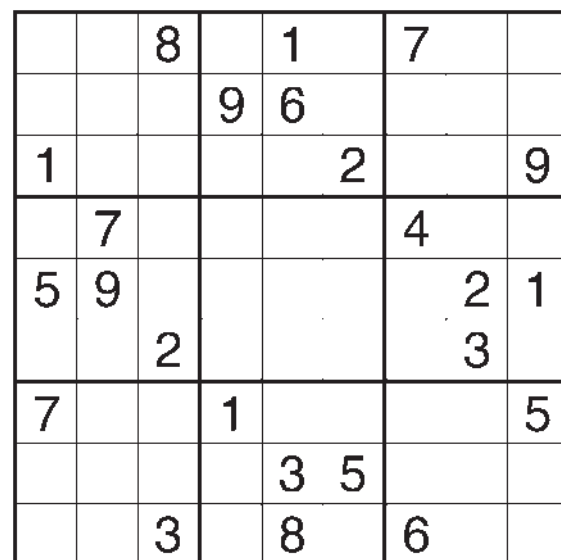
**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Take better care of yourself and your relationship with others. Protect against injury, illness and unnecessary risks. Make positive changes at home that will encourage you to be creative and novel in the way you organize your daily routine. ★★★

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Trust in what you know, not in what others tell you. Stick to a lifestyle you can afford and a healthy regimen that will protect you from over-indulgent behavior. Align yourself with people dedicated to making a difference. ★★★★★

## SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★★★★

7/02

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | 6 | 1 | 7 | 2 | 5 | 8 | 4 | 9 |
| 7 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 9 | 8 | 5 | 3 | 6 |
| 8 | 9 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 4 | 7 | 2 | 1 |
| 6 | 5 | 3 | 9 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 8 | 4 |
| 1 | 4 | 8 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 9 | 7 |
| 9 | 7 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 3 | 6 | 1 | 5 |
| 2 | 8 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 9 | 1 | 7 | 3 |
| 4 | 1 | 7 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 9 | 5 | 8 |
| 5 | 3 | 9 | 8 | 1 | 7 | 4 | 6 | 2 |

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Handle situations involving a friend, relative or lover cautiously. Emotions will flare up quickly, leaving you or someone you care about in an awkward position. Take the high road and let bygones be bygones. Keep the peace. ★★



**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** You'll have an innovative idea that can help you raise your income. Put your talent to good use, and you'll find an outlet for something you enjoy doing. Spend quality time with someone supportive; build a solid foundation. ★★★★★



**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Spend time reflecting and bringing about change that will improve your life. A new direction will entice you, but consider what you will have to sacrifice before you make a move. Someone will lead you astray. Verify information before you proceed. ★★★

**Birthday Baby:** You are persistent, energetic and changeable. You are adventuresome and entertaining.

★: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ★★: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ★★★: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ★★★★: Aim high; start new projects. ★★★★★: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

## WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

ECHOES

Solution: 10 letters

Y S L L I H A R M O N Y A W L  
L G P A T T E R N R P C S A S  
N L R G N I S E O E R U N L V  
O S E E O G L H R E R I L L I  
Y P R Y N A I F W F G E L O O  
N E E A H E O S A I W A K U L  
A A T W L E R N C R U C O P Y I  
C K A L M A E A O T C O P Y A N  
I E W L E N A P H R L I C B I  
R R O A Y N I W E P A E B S A  
T E I H A A N F A A O A A O T  
C C D T N D L U R V T R I R N  
E O U O N E L E T S E D C B U  
L R T E C A V E D N U O S I O  
E D S T R A V E L A C I D E M

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7/2  
Absorb, Answer, Audio, Bats, Call, Canyon, Cave, Clear, Copy, Delay, Ears, Electric, Energy, Hallway, Harmony, Heart, Hills, Horn, Loud, Medical, Microphone, Mountain, Nature, Original, Panel, Pattern, Perform, Piano, Record, Reflect, Repeat, Rock, Send, Signal, Sing, Sound, Speaker, Studio, Surface, Travel, Tunnel, Violin, Wall, Water, Wave, Wells, Whale, Yell

Yesterday's Answer: Motorized  
Jo's Jewels Collector's Edition is back by popular demand!  
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# Chris Paul leads Suns past Clippers, into NBA Finals



**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—Tears welled in Chris Paul's eyes. A message in black ink on his shoes said it all: Can't give up now.

Not when, after 16 years, he will finally play for an NBA title.

Paul led the Phoenix Suns into their first NBA Finals in 28 years, beating the Los Angeles Clippers 130-103 on Wednesday night to close out the Western Conference finals in six games.

"I was on a don't-lose mission," Paul said. "Just a lot of emotion. A lot of (things) going on."

Paul scored 41 points and Devin Booker added 22 to send the Suns to their third finals appearance in franchise history. They will face either the Atlanta Hawks or Milwaukee Bucks, who are tied 2-2 in the East finals.

"He was tired," Suns coach Monty Williams said of Paul. "He was still making those kind of plays, getting to the basket, 3s, orchestrating everything."

"He has persevered through a lot — injuries, playoff heartbreak."

Paul missed the first two games against the Clippers after testing positive for the coronavirus. He injured his shoulder in the first round against the Lakers. Add in numerous surgeries and making the conference finals one other time, only to fall short.

"It's been a lot, I'm telling you," he said.

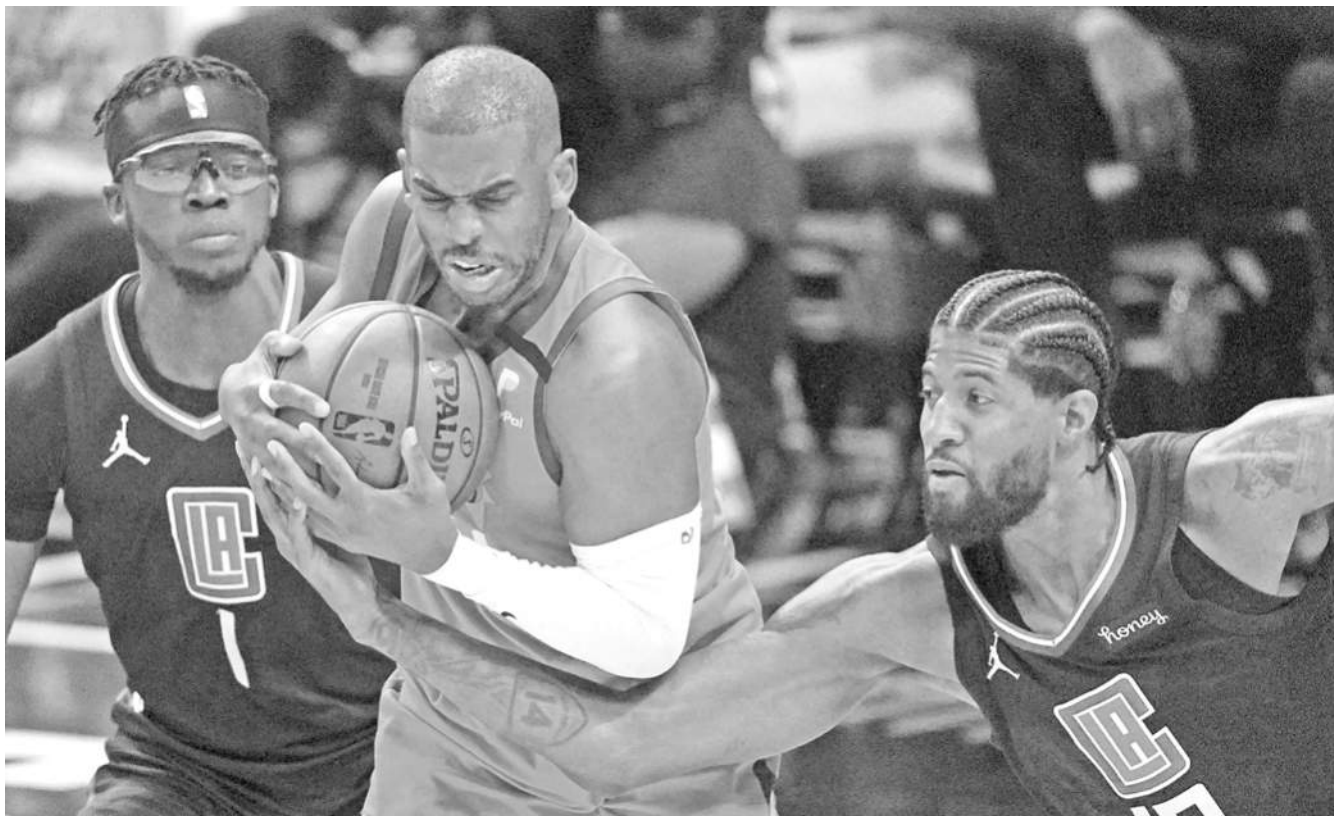
Paul reached the NBA Finals for the first time on the same Staples Center court where he helped bring the Clippers to respectability over six seasons that ended in 2017 without ever getting past the second round. The 36-year-old guard punished his old team with 31 points in the second half and tied his playoff career high of 41 — the same amount Paul George had in pushing the Clippers to a road win in Game 5.

"I'm just so happy for all the people around me," Paul said on the court after the game, "and the Clippers are my family, too. These fans, Billy Crystal, that's my family. This is a team I have the utmost respect for, I'll always be a Clipper."

"But this group right here, this group right here," he said, gesturing at his Suns teammates wearing NBA Finals hats.

The West trophy glinted under the arena lights as orange-clad Suns fans outcheered boos from Clippers fans. Paul's family, including leaping 12-year-old son, Chris, celebrated in a suite.

"This is what we set out to



Los Angeles Clippers guard Paul George, right, reaches in on Phoenix Suns guard Chris Paul during the second half in Game 6 of the NBA basketball Western Conference Finals Wednesday, June 30, 2021, in Los Angeles.

get tonight, so we didn't want to go back to Phoenix without it," Booker said.

Phoenix is the first team to reach the NBA Finals after a 10-year playoff drought. The Suns had the league's second-best record in this pandemic-interrupted season. They knocked off the defending champion Los Angeles Lakers in the first round and swept Denver in the semifinals.

The Suns last made the

NBA Finals in 1993, when they were led by Charles Barkley and lost to Michael Jordan and the Chicago Bulls in six games.

Their only other finals appearance was in 1976, a loss to the Boston Celtics in six games.

Things got chippy in the fourth. Going into a timeout with 5:48 remaining, Paul stared at Patrick Beverley as he walked by. Beverley turned

around and shoved Paul hard in the back, sending him to the floor. Beverley was ejected.

"We knew we broke them," Jae Crowder said. "There's no better sign. That's a great feeling to have."

Marcus Morris led the Clippers with 26 points despite playing with a sore knee. George had 21 points and nine rebounds coming off his career playoff high that staved off elimination and brought

his team back home for another chance.

But the exhausted Clippers — who rallied from 0-2 series deficits in getting to the West finals for the first time in franchise history — had little left in the tank. They were again without two-time NBA Finals MVP Kawhi Leonard, who has been out with a right knee sprain, and center Ivica Zubac. He missed his second straight game because of a MCL sprain

in his right knee.

Leonard moved from a suite to the bench for the game, his eyes staring from behind a black mask.

George said the series would have been different with Leonard available.

"You are talking about one of the best players being out and we are inches from being to the next round," he said. "It's a lot of what-ifs, but we didn't make it."

Clippers coach Tyronn Lue said, "I thought we ran out of gas. For that first half, we made a lot of mistakes mentally. That tells you guys are tired."

Paul dominated over the end of the third and well into the fourth, scoring 14 of Phoenix's 16 points after the Clippers closed within seven late in the third. He hit three 3-pointers in the final quarter, falling on his back and getting fouled on one of them.

"I kept asking him, 'You tasting it? You tasting it?'" Crowder said. "He said, 'No.'"

But with an unbeatable lead, Paul and the other starters sat down.

"He's like, 'I'm tasting it now,'" Crowder said, smiling. "It's great to see him get over the hump."

The Suns stretched their lead to 17 points in the third, dulling the Staples Center crowd. Five different players scored, highlighted by Crowder's fifth 3-pointer and Booker's dunk. Crowder finished with 19 points. Deandre Ayton added 16 points and 17 rebounds.

"Phoenix did a hell of a job," Lue said. "CP was fantastic. Booker is a star at a young age and they have a good foundation. They played a hell of a series and go from there."

The Clippers briefly reenergized themselves and the fans with a 10-0 run that drew them to 89-82. Morris and Nicolas Batum each hit 3-pointers.

But Paul closed on his own 8-0 run, including two 3-pointers, that sent the Suns into the fourth leading 97-83.

Booker ditched the clear plastic mask he'd worn to protect his broken nose in the last three games. He got elbowed in the nose defending George at the end of the third, and brought the mask back out in the fourth. Moments later, DeMarcus Cousins earned a technical foul for elbowing Paul in the neck.

## Antetokounmpo's injury makes Bucks' title quest much tougher

**MILWAUKEE** (AP)—The Milwaukee Bucks overhauled their roster during the offseason to put more star power around two-time MVP Giannis Antetokounmpo.

Their championship hopes now may depend on how well those other guys can perform without him.

Antetokounmpo is doubtful Thursday night for Game 5 of the Eastern Conference finals after an MRI showed he hyperextended his left knee in the Bucks' 110-88 Game 4 loss to the Atlanta Hawks.

"Giannis is going to do everything he can to be available," Bucks coach Mike Budenholzer said Wednesday. "We're going to put his health and safety first and together make good decisions."

Antetokounmpo's injury looked considerably more serious when he was clutching his knee in obvious pain Tuesday night. But as encouraging as the MRI results are for the Bucks' long-term ambitions, the injury seriously complicates their hopes of winning this series and reaching the NBA Finals for the first time since 1974.

The Bucks and Hawks are tied at two games apiece.

"Any time you see your best player go down, it's not

great," Bucks forward P.J. Tucker said after Game 4. "But it's an opportunity for somebody else and everybody else to step up. It's the Eastern Conference finals. There's no excuses. It doesn't matter whoever is playing, not playing. They've got guys out. Everybody's hurt. Everybody's banged up. Everybody has injuries. You have to fight through it and win."

Milwaukee brought in Jrue Holiday during the offseason to form a trio of All-Stars alongside Antetokounmpo and Khris Middleton. They added more playoff experience by acquiring Tucker before the All-Star break.

The price the Bucks paid to make those moves reduced Milwaukee's overall depth. That issue became even more glaring once guard Donte DiVincenzo tore a ligament in his ankle in the first-round series with Miami to knock him out for the remainder of the postseason.

That depth has been tested before.

Milwaukee went 6-5 in the 11 regular-season games Antetokounmpo missed. Now the Bucks likely will have to play without him again amid much higher stakes.

Antetokounmpo is averag-

ing 28.2 points, 12.7 rebounds and 5.2 assists in the postseason. If he isn't available, the Bucks will need Middleton and Holiday to become more consistent.

Middleton scored 20 points in the fourth quarter to carry the Bucks to a Game 3 victory in Atlanta, but he's gone 0 for 16 from 3-point range in Milwaukee's two losses during this series. Holiday shot 23 of 39 in the first two games of this series and 8 of 28 over the last two games.

The Bucks are shooting 30.6% from 3-point range in the playoffs, down from 38.9% in the regular season.

Antetokounmpo's situation represents a cruel twist of fate for a Bucks team that had been capitalizing on other teams' injuries.

In the Bucks' 4-3 second-round series victory over Brooklyn, the Nets didn't have Kyrie Irving for the last three games or James Harden for most of the first four games. When Atlanta's Trae Young sat out Game 4 with a bone bruise in his right foot, it appeared the Bucks had gotten another break.

The Bucks instead got blown out Tuesday and now face the likelihood of playing without their biggest star.

"As players, you just look at each other and whoever we got out there, that's who we're going with and we're going to go out and fight," Tucker said after Game 4. "Like to me, all that other stuff goes out the window and it comes down to be able to go out and give the effort every play, lay it on the line, and go out there and take it because tonight, that's what Atlanta did. They took it."

The Bucks won't get much sympathy from the Hawks, who have their own injury problems.

Young's status for Game 5 remains uncertain. Clint Capela also is questionable with right eye inflammation after taking an elbow to the face late in Game 4. DeAndre Hunter is out for the remainder of the postseason after undergoing knee surgery. Bogdan Bogdanovic is playing with a sore knee and Cam Reddish just returned from an Achilles injury that knocked him out for four months.

"The preparation is really still the same as far as preparing for them," Hawks coach Nate McMillan said. "You don't just prepare for Giannis. They have a lot of other guys over there that are productive and can play and they can go to. We'll continue to prepare for the Bucks as opposed to just one individual."



# Turner hits for 3rd cycle, red-hot Nats rout Rays, 15-6



**WASHINGTON (AP)**—

Trea Turner completed his record-tying third career cycle by hitting a sixth-inning triple for the Washington Nationals on Wednesday, accomplishing the feat on his 28th birthday in a 15-6 victory over the Tampa Bay Rays.

The speedy shortstop became the fifth player in major league history with three cycles, joining Adrian Beltre, Babe Herman, Bob Meusel and John Reilly, according to the Elias Sports Bureau.

He also scored four times in the victory, which sealed a two-game sweep as well as Washington's fourth straight win and 14th in its last 17 games.

Turner singled in the first off Tampa Bay opener Drew Rasmussen, doubled in the third against Ryan Sherriff (0-1), then hit his 14th homer in the fourth off Michael Wacha.

Two innings later, Turner hit a ball into the right-field corner and beat second baseman Mike Brosseau's throw to third with a headfirst slide.

Jon Lester (2-3) allowed five runs on seven hits over five innings, striking out three and walking two.

## Angels 11, Yankees 8

In New York, Jared Walsh hit a tying grand slam off Aroldis Chapman in a seven-run ninth inning for his second homer of a long night, and Los Angeles stunned New York.

Shohei Ohtani's highly anticipated first pitching appearance at Yankee Stadium was a wild wreck that ended early. He was charged with seven runs in the first inning, but the Angels persevered through two weather delays that lasted more than two hours and broke loose for seven of their own in the ninth.

Pinch-hitter Luis Rengifo broke the tie with a two-run single off Lucas Luetge (2-1) with two outs, and Taylor Ward added an RBI single.

Raisel Iglesias got three quick outs for his 15th save as seven Angels relievers helped bail out Ohtani.

Mike Mayers (2-3) got the win after giving up a solo homer to Brett Gardner in the eighth.

## Brewers 15, Cubs 7

In Milwaukee, Highly touted Milwaukee prospect Aaron Ashby got hammered for seven runs in the first inning of his big league debut, but Luis Urias homered twice as the Brewers rallied to rout Chicago for their eighth straight win.

The Brewers swept the three-game series and increased their NL Central lead to six games over Chicago. The Cubs lost

their sixth in a row.

Willy Adames hit a grand slam during an eight-run burst in the fourth inning that put Milwaukee ahead 14-7. His error at shortstop helped the Cubs break loose at the start against Ashby.

Five Brewers relievers combined for 8 1/3 scoreless innings. Trevor Richards (3-0) wound up with the win.

Ross Brothers (2-1), the third of seven Chicago pitchers, allowed three of the four batters he faced in the fourth to reach.

## Cardinals 7, Diamondbacks 4

In St. Louis, Kwang Hyun Kim won for the first time in 11 starts, pitching five solid innings and helping himself with a two-run double as St. Louis beat Arizona for a three-game sweep.

Kim (2-5) had lost five straight decisions since his last win on April 23. He stranded six runners through his first four innings, giving up just an RBI single to Asdrúbal Cabrera.

Alex Reyes earned his 20th save in as many opportunities. Arizona lost its fourth in a row.

Riley Smith (1-4) gave up four runs over three innings in his first start since May 14. The Diamondbacks were swept for the 13th time this season.

## Rockies 6, Pirates 2

In Denver, Jon Gray tossed six strong innings and Colorado beat Pittsburgh.

Garrett Hampson had four hits for the Rockies, who swept the three-game series and improved to 28-16 at home. Colorado is 6-31 on the road.

After a rough first inning, Gray (5-6) didn't give up another hit before leaving four a pinch-hitter in the sixth.

C.J. Cron led off the Colorado fourth with his 11th home run. The Rockies scored two more in the fifth off Pittsburgh starter Chad Kuhl (2-5).

## Tigers 9, Indians 4, 1st Game Tigers 7, Indians 1, 2nd Game

In Cleveland, Miguel Cabrera hit his 494th career homer, moving into sole possession of 28th place all-time, and Detroit completed a double-header sweep over Cleveland.

Cabrera went 2 for 4 and scored twice in raising his hit total to 2,919, 10 shy of matching Al Simmons for 40th place in baseball history. He broke a tie with Lou Gehrig and Fred McGriff on the homer list with a solo shot off Nick Wittgren in the fifth inning.

Wily Peralta (1-1) allowed one unearned run over five innings for his first victory since April 17, 2019, with



Kansas City. He struck out a season-high five without issuing a walk.

Derek Hill had a two-run single and Eric Haase homered and scored three runs for Detroit. Jonathan Schoop and Zack Short had two hits apiece.

Indians starter Logan Allen (1-5) gave up three runs in 3 2/3 innings, losing his fourth in a row. Bradley Zimmer tripled home Ernie Clement in the second to avoid the shutout.

In the first game, Harold Castro and Schoop each had three RBIs as the Tigers scored the final five runs in the victory. Rookie Bobby Bradley belted two of Cleveland's four homers off José Urena.

Kyle Funkhouser (2-0) retired all five batters he faced in relief of starter José Urena, who allowed a career-high four home runs in 3 1/3 innings.

## Braves 20, Mets 2

In Atlanta, Ozzie Albies drove in seven runs with five hits, including two home runs, and Atlanta battered New York.

Mets left-hander David Peterson exited due to right side soreness in the fourth inning, leaving his status for his next start unknown. Peterson (2-6) allowed six runs and eight hits, each matching his career high.

Austin Riley drove in three runs on three hits. Freddie Freeman had three hits and scored four runs.

Braves left-hander Max Fried (5-4) recovered after giving up a two-run homer to Pete Alonso. Fried allowed two runs and three hits in five innings.

Ronald Acuña Jr. and Ehire Adrianza also homered for the Braves.

## Mariners 9, Blue Jays 7, 10 innings

In Buffalo, N.Y., Dylan Moore hit a three-run homer in the 10th inning and Seattle

held on after blowing two earlier leads.

Moore hit a 3-1 pitch from right-hander Patrick Murphy (0-1) to left-center, scoring automatic runner Luis Torrens and Shed Long Jr., who singled as a pinch-hitter.

Drew Steckenrider allowed an RBI leadoff double to Cavan Biggio in the bottom of the inning but retired the next three batters — two via strikeout — for his second save.

Kyle Seager and Mitch Haniger hit two-run homers for Seattle. Moore and J.P. Crawford each had three hits and scored twice. Kendall Graveman (2-0) was the winning pitcher.

## Padres 7, Reds 5

In Cincinnati, Trent Grisham hit a grand slam and a solo shot and San Diego rallied for its 11th win in the last 12 games, beating Cincinnati in a game called in the sixth inning due to rain.

Grisham's first career grand slam in the fifth inning came off reliever Josh Osich and gave San Diego the lead and its sixth straight win over Cincinnati in the past two weeks.

Grisham and Wil Myers hit back-to-back solos shots in the Padres' second. Fernando Tatis Jr. hit his National League-leading 26th homer leading off the third.

Nick Castellanos hit a three-run homer, and Joey Votto homered for his 1,000 RBI.

Joe Musgrove (5-6) was the winning pitcher, despite allowing five runs and four hits through four innings.

Vladimir Gutierrez (3-3) took the loss.

## Marlins 11, Phillies 6

In Philadelphia, Joe Panik made an instant impression in his first game in Miami's lineup, homering in his first at-bat and adding a go-ahead RBI single during a six-run sixth inning in a come-from-

behind win over Philadelphia.

Starling Marte went 4-for-6 for Miami and Garrett Cooper and Adam Duvall each had three hits for the Marlins. Duvall recorded his 18th homer of the season, and Cooper, Jesus Sanchez and Sandy Leon each drove in two runs.

Aaron Nola (5-5) struck out 11 Marlins — including eight of the first nine outs of the game by punchout.

Bryce Harper hit two solo homers for the Phillies, increasing his season total to 13. It was the 23rd multihomer game of Harper's career. Nick Maton drove in two runs for Philadelphia, which has lost 10 of its last 15 games.

Zach Pop (1-0) worked an inning and earned the victory.

## Orioles 5, Astros 2

In Houston, Austin Hays homered and Ryan Mountcastle drove in two runs to help Baltimore wrap up a three-game sweep of slumping Houston.

It's the first time the Orioles have swept the Astros since June 17-19, 2008, in Baltimore and their first-ever sweep at Minute Maid Park.

The Orioles jumped on rookie starter Luis Garcia (6-5) for four runs in the first inning.

The Astros have dropped five of six after their season-long 11-game winning streak.

Matt Harvey permitted four hits and two runs in 4 1/3 innings. Tanner Scott (3-3) struck out four in 1 2/3 scoreless innings for the win and Cole Sulser got the last five outs for his third save.

Garcia allowed three hits, walked three and struck out five in four innings.

## White Sox 13, Twins 3

In Chicago, Yasmani Grandal hit a three-run shot and a towering two-run drive, and Chicago went deep six times in a rout of Minnesota.

Rookie Andrew Vaughn smacked a two-run homer and

Washington Nationals' Trea Turner rounds the bases on his home run during the fourth inning of a baseball game against the Tampa Bay Rays, Wednesday, June 30, 2021, in Washington.

had three RBIs. Gavin Sheets hit his first career home run in his second game as Chicago won its third straight.

José Abreu and Brian Goodwin added solo shots to help first-place Chicago expand its lead over Cleveland in the AL Central.

Dylan Cease (7-3) cruised to his fourth victory in five starts, allowing three hits and striking out seven in six innings. Josh Donaldson and Nelson Cruz connected for solo homers off the 25-year-old right-hander.

Gilberto Celestino added a solo shot in the eighth.

Twins rookie Bailey Ober (0-1) lasted just 3 1/3 innings in his sixth career start, allowing five runs on four hits, including three homers.

## Athletics 3, Rangers 1

In Oakland, Calif., Chris Bassitt pitched three-hit ball over seven scoreless innings to win his ninth straight decision and Oakland beat Texas.

Frank Schwindel hit his first career homer in his A's debut after becoming the 2,000th player in franchise history earlier in the day. Elvis Andrus added two hits.

Joey Gallo homered for the fourth consecutive game for the Rangers, who had won four straight.

Bassitt (9-2) set down 16 of his first 18 batters and pitched out of a two-out jam with runners on the corners in the sixth.

Kolby Allard (2-4) allowed three runs and four hits in six innings. He struck out five and walked one.

## Red Sox 6, Royals 2

In Boston, J.D. Martinez and Hunter Renfroe homered, Martin Perez pitched two-run ball into the sixth inning and Boston beat Kansas City in a game twice delayed by poor weather.

Perez (6-4) allowed two runs on seven hits over 5 1/3 innings, striking out two. He allowed a homer to Salvador Pérez leading off the second. Pérez's homer came during a 4-for-4 night.

Mike Minor (6-6) gave up five runs on seven hits over five innings.

Xander Bogaerts and Marwin Gonzalez each had two hits for Boston.

Royals right-hander Richard Lovelady was struck by Martinez's line-drive comebacker in the seventh and left the game. He pitched 1 2/3 perfect innings in his season debut.



# Hermogenes wins Bamboo Bar 8-ball tourney

By MARK RABAGO

mark\_rabago@saipantribune.com  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Rey Hermogenes came back from the jaws of defeat to win the June 8-ball tournament at the New Bamboo Bar in Saipan Las Vegas Resort along Middle Road.

The 58-year-old general maintenance staff at the Kristo Rai Church beat winners' bracket topnotcher Jerry Soriano in the battle of right-handers in the finals to take home the monthly championship and the \$500 first place purse.

Playing with the striped balls, Hermogenes shocked everyone by beating Soriano in the first game to negate the latter's twice-to-beat advantage.

The Marilao, Bulacan in



the Philippines native then completed his comeback by

again surprising Soriano in the winner-take-all Game 2

**CONTRIBUTED PHOTO**  
A total of 16 pool masters took part in the June 8-ball tournament at the New Bamboo Bar last Sunday with Rey Hermogenes, third from left, winning the monthly competition.

Hermogenes started things off with a win over Santi Sablan before outlasting Jess Fariñas in his second game. Disaster struck in his third game, however, when he faced off against Randy David, as Hermogenes lost and was dropped down to the losers' bracket.

With one loss between him and elimination, the five-year pool player began his comeback with a win over Rowell "Cobra" Mariano. He then topped the losers' bracket by outplaying veteran Joey Lucido in the losers' bracket finals.

Soriano, meanwhile, racked up four straight victories before completely collapsing against Hermogenes

in the championship round. The 50-year-old Mexico, Pampanga in the Philippines native first dismissed fellow veteran Senen Pangilinan in the first round. The Marianas Water staff then got the better of Mariano in his second game before relegating Lucido to the losers' bracket in the quarterfinals.

The win against the crafty Lucido set up a semifinals encounter against Hermogenes' vanquisher David, who Soriano defeated to win the winners' bracket and secure the all-important twice-to-beat advantage in the finals. David took third place and \$100, while Lucido was fourth and pocketed \$50.

A total of 16 pool masters took part in the June 8-ball tournament at the New Bamboo Bar. The tournament, sponsored by New Bamboo Bar, Saipan Vegas, and Budweiser, is held every month and for more information, call Soriano at 588-1971.

## 4th of July 2-mile Race this Sunday

Latte Built Gym will hold the Inaugural 4th of July Independence Day 2-mile Race along the Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio Beach Road Pathway this Sunday from the Garapan Fishing Base to the National Office Supply building.

Registration fee is \$10 and show time is at 5:30am with starting gun at 6am. Finishers' medals will be given out to all participants with the Top 3 men and women receiving placement medals.



"Run Saipan has gained quite a lot of traction over the last six months. Run Saipan founder/organizer Edward Dela Cruz is a longtime Latte Built Gym member and friend and a huge advocate for running. We discussed hosting an annual run on a 4th of July since I am a veteran-owned business," said Latte Built Gym owner Derek Cutting.

Being a veteran and since it's the 4th of July and Independence Day and Liberation

Day in the CNMI, Cutting thought it was perfect that the run be a 2-mile course.

"I designed the race to be 2 miles because that is the distance of our Army Combat Fitness Test (ACFT) run," he said.

For more information about the Inaugural 4th of July Independence Day 2-mile Race, contact Latte Built Gym at 235-2265 or email lattebuilt@gmail.com. To register, click on <https://docs.google.com/.../1FAIpQLSeB-T906L.../viewform>. (Mark Rabago)

## VOLUNTEER

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it wasn't for you our runners wouldn't have been able to take memories with them of their amazing experience. You have been able to capture these experiences and show it to the world. We wish you the best. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts and you will always be part of our family no matter where you go," he said.

MRA's Cuki Alvarez said the sport of motocross on island will forever be indebted to Chin's contributions, especially since MRA was dormant for so many years.

"Joseph definitely highlighted and brought 'life' to the Marianas Racing Association with his pictures and videos. His passion and creativity in his photography really made all the racers and riders shine and it showed in all his action shots! He literally placed himself in harm's way at times to get the 'perfect' shot. We will miss his warm smile and happy vibes and just his overall presence that he has brought to our club every single weekend since we first met him in



FACEBOOK

Joseph Chin, left, takes a selfie with his fellow shutterbugs, from second left, Ponciano Corotan, Teddy Corpuz, and Jonathan Ibaan at Banzai Cliff.

September of 2020," said the Expert Class rider.

Tisha Ferrer, the mother of Peewee Class rider T.J., said the whole MRA family will miss Chin. "Thank you so much Joseph for all the awesome pictures and videos you took during practices and races. The MRA family will miss you. T.J. is always looking forward to your posts and enjoys watching them everytime."

Fellow volunteer photographer Lao Zhang said aside

from being a very good photographer, Chin is a very nice man. "He is professional, hardworking, and admirable in his photography!"

Jonathan Ibaan, who like Chin and Zhang, also takes photos of Saipan's sports events, said he will also miss Chin's camaraderie.

"Thank you Joseph for the fun and the bonding. God bless you and take care always. Have a safe trip brother," he said.

## TSUNAMI

From Page 32

said he could no longer ignore.

"Aoi Braxton and Shoko Litulumar haven't broken records yet. However, Braxton is already so close to the CNMI record for backstroke. If it is conversion time, she might have broken many CNMI records already. Litulumar is such a hard worker, I'm sure she will break some CNMI records soon as well," he added.

Kimura said even though Tsunami Saipan has only been training in a non-Olympic swimming pool, he converts his wards' time in the non-regulation pool to official pool time and continues to use FINA points.

"Every time trial, we convert all results to official pool

time. Not only that conversion but also FINA points, we calculate it. We depend on FINA points a lot," he said.

Using those calculations, Tenorio had 620 points in the 100m backstroke, while Suzuki had 613 points in the 200m freestyle. Litulumar and Braxton, meanwhile, have so far managed 469 and 452 points, respectively, according to Kimura.

Kimura also bared that before sustaining an injury training for a track and field competition, Litulumar's older sister, Asaka, was in line to represent Tsunami Saipan in the qualifiers for the FINA World Championships.

"She had an injury from track and field and is still under rehabilitation. This time, as alternate of Asaka her younger sister, Shoko, will swim. Shoko is the third highest FINA point-getter among Tsunami Saipan girls," he said.

Hope springs eternal for the elder Litulumar though, as Kimura said Asaka may still suit up in the second open water qualifier if her health continues to improve.

"Next qualifier, Asaka will swim because Asaka is the No. 1 female sprinter in the CNMI right now," said the Tsunami Saipan coach.

## TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

### MLB STANDINGS

| AMERICAN LEAGUE  |    |    |      |     |
|------------------|----|----|------|-----|
| East Division    |    |    |      |     |
|                  | W  | L  | Pct  | GB  |
| Boston           | 50 | 31 | .617 | —   |
| Tampa Bay        | 47 | 34 | .580 | 3   |
| Toronto          | 41 | 37 | .526 | 7½  |
| New York         | 41 | 39 | .513 | 8½  |
| Baltimore        | 27 | 54 | .333 | 23  |
| Central Division |    |    |      |     |
| Chicago          | 47 | 32 | .595 | —   |
| Cleveland        | 42 | 35 | .545 | 4   |
| Detroit          | 36 | 45 | .444 | 12  |
| Minnesota        | 33 | 45 | .423 | 13½ |
| Kansas City      | 33 | 46 | .418 | 14  |
| West Division    |    |    |      |     |
| Houston          | 48 | 33 | .593 | —   |
| Oakland          | 48 | 34 | .585 | ½   |
| Seattle          | 42 | 39 | .519 | 6   |
| Los Angeles      | 39 | 41 | .488 | 8½  |
| Texas            | 31 | 49 | .388 | 16½ |

| NATIONAL LEAGUE |    |    |      |    |
|-----------------|----|----|------|----|
| East Division   |    |    |      |    |
| New York        | 41 | 35 | .539 | —  |
| Washington      | 40 | 38 | .513 | 2  |
| Atlanta         | 38 | 41 | .481 | 4½ |
| Philadelphia    | 37 | 41 | .474 | 5  |
| Miami           | 34 | 45 | .430 | 8½ |

| Central Division |    |    |      |    |
|------------------|----|----|------|----|
| Milwaukee        | 48 | 33 | .593 | —  |
| Chicago          | 42 | 39 | .519 | 6  |
| St. Louis        | 40 | 41 | .494 | 8  |
| Cincinnati       | 39 | 40 | .494 | 8  |
| Pittsburgh       | 29 | 50 | .367 | 18 |

| West Division |    |    |      |     |
|---------------|----|----|------|-----|
| San Francisco | 50 | 29 | .633 | —   |
| Los Angeles   | 49 | 31 | .613 | 1½  |
| San Diego     | 49 | 33 | .598 | 2½  |
| Colorado      | 34 | 47 | .420 | 17  |
| Arizona       | 22 | 60 | .268 | 29½ |

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

254-243. Third place is still Kier Agda with his 211 points.

Ezekiel Camacho topped last Sunday's race in the Peewee 1 Class with 47 points, followed by Zane Fujihara and Roman Tudela with 42 and 38 points, respectively. Overall, Camacho's 254 points reigns supreme with Fujihara and Conan Iakopo trailing with 231 and 229 points, respectively.

In the Peewee 2 Class, Jonah Santos made it six straight perfect 50 points after once again leading the division. He now has 300 points overall and is a cinch to take home the overall championship. Conan Iakopo finished second last Sunday with 44 points, while T.J. Ferrer came in third with 40 points. Keenon Togawa is still in second place overall with 245 points, followed by Ferrer's 204 points.



# Special Feature

**Editor's Note:** The Governor's Council of Economic Advisers' Public Private Partnership initiative has drawn widespread support from the community. Various activities have been conducted and projects have been launched to rally behind the destination transformation campaign. This section will provide insights on how PPP supporters are committed to the program.



**Together, We Can**  
Public Private Partnership

**T**he transformation of Tinian's Broadway Estates Basketball Court and baseball field last weekend couldn't have come at a better time for the island's youngest residents.

The basketball court received a long-overdue facelift from the Tinian Mayor's Office, Typhoon Sports Association, and FitBeat Anti-Tobacco Wellness, the newest partners of the Governor's Council of Economic Advisers' (GCEA) Public Private Partnership program. The partners teamed up with Tinian's very own Senate President Jude Hofschneider, Sen. Francisco Cruz, Sen. Karl King-Nabors, the Office of House Minority—CNMI House of Representatives—22nd Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature—their staff, and family members, Team KOKA, and Voices of the CNMI. The June 25-26 Tinian PPP event also marked the second Tinian site adopted into the GCEA's transformation campaign. The Jones Beach, adopted by Triple J Enterprises, Inc. in February this year, was the first one.

"We definitely welcome the PPP project on Tinian. We have students and kids who want to participate in sports programs, especially now that school is on break, and we need a venue for them to showcase their talents and skills," said Sen. King-Nabors, who is also involved with the Typhoon Sports Association's basketball teams.

The senator added that since the COVID-19 pandemic struck, the island experienced a drastic drop in sports activities, and the situation was made even more challenging by the unsafe conditions at the Tinian Gymnasium, which sustained damage from Super Typhoon Yutu. Now that the basketball court and baseball field have undergone improvements, residents — particularly the youth — will be encouraged to go outside and be active by playing or joining sports competitions.

Tinian resident Joseph Estrada said he and his two sons can now walk to the court and play instead of driving to the Tinian Elementary School to play at the court there.

"It's summertime and I am sure a lot of children will come here and play. This is one of the most utilized sports facilities on Tinian since the gym was damaged by the typhoon," Estrada said.

Typhoon player Colleen Cing also said her team used



**CONTRIBUTED PHOTO**  
The aerial shot of the Broadway Estates Basketball Court on Tinian after getting a long-overdue facelift through the Public Private Partnership initiative of the Governor's Council of Economic Advisers last weekend.



**CONTRIBUTED PHOTO**  
Supporters of the Public Private Partnership initiative of the GCEA and volunteers from Tinian and Saipan pose for a group photo after completing the transformation project at the Broadway Estates Basketball Court last June 26.



Senate President Jude U. Hofschneider joins the House Minority Block and other volunteers in painting the flooring of the Broadway Estates Basketball Court.



A young volunteer paints one of the dugouts at the Tinian Baseball Field.



This combo photos shows the Broadway Estates Basketball Court before undergoing transformation.

**CONTRIBUTED PHOTO**

the court often even though the nets were worn out and the rims were rusty and old.

"I am glad they were able to make the basketball court look better and our leaders decided to work on something that the youth on Tinian uses frequently," said Cing.

The basketball court, which sits at the heart of the Broadway Estates Housing, was painted along with the bleachers and the backboards. Its rims and nets were replaced.

The dugouts of the baseball field also received a fresh coat of paint, courtesy of the House minority bloc.

Senate President Hofschneider said the transformation of the village facilities is a great start to the renewed partnership among Tinian's leaders, the business community, residents, various organizations, and the GCEA, as the island gives its full support to the PPP campaign.

Tinian Mayor Edwin Al-

dan hopes that the people of Tinian will be inspired by the second PPP project on the island and will step forward to adopt more sites and facilities that both tourists and residents will enjoy.

Meanwhile, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres was pleased that another village facility has been added to the list of adopted sites under the PPP initiative. Sixty sites and villages facilities have been adopted so far, less than a

year after the campaign was launched. The program has welcomed 57 partners, who have committed to caring for the sites for five years.

"To all our PPP partners on Tinian, Rota, and Saipan, thank you for your tireless efforts in transforming our destination sites and village facilities. In due time, the entire Marianas will see the product of your hard work and commitment to this campaign as we move forward with our ef-



**CONTRIBUTED PHOTO**  
Tinian residents take a look at the newly-painted Broadway Estates Basketball Court.

orts to promote The Marianas as a 'Multi-Island Integrated Destination' and provide our residents with safe and pleasing facilities and sites we can all be proud of," said Gov. Torres during the launch ceremony and the second leg of the GCEA's anniversary celebration. **(PR)**





Chris Paul leads  
Suns past Clippers,  
into NBA Finals

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# Saipan Tribune Sports

Hermogenes wins  
Bamboo Bar  
8-ball tourney

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

## Tsunami Saipan nominates 4 for qualifiers

By MARK RABAGO  
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Swimming Center Tsunami Saipan has nominated four members to represent the team in the qualifiers for the 2021 FINA World Championships in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates this coming December.

Tsunami Saipan coach Hiro Kimura has picked Juhn Tenorio, Jinnosuke Suzuki, Aoi Braxton, and Shoko Litulumar to swim that will serve as the first of three qualifiers for the FINA World Championships.



Braxton



Litulumar



Suzuki



Tenorio

### Celis lords it over Veterans Class

By MARK RABAGO  
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Dave Celis is now six-for-six in the Veterans Class of the Marianas Racing Association's 2021 Point Series Race after winning last Sunday's race at CowTown Raceway Park in Marpi.

The 43-year-old from Chalan Kanoa, who's been religiously training every weekend with good friend Cuki Alvarez at the dirt track even on non-race days, swept both races last Sunday to get a perfect 50 points. It marked the third straight race he's garnered 50 points dating back from the fourth race.

Thanks to his trusty 2021 Yamaha YZ250F, Celis now has 285 points on the strength of winning all races



thus far in the revered Veterans Class.

"My strategy is to finish the race strong and maintain a steady speed constantly throughout the race," he told *Saipan Tribune* when asked about the secret of his dominance in the division.

Just like Alvarez in the Expert Class, Celis is almost a shoe-in for the championship in Veterans Class and he himself knows it. "I'm currently the points leader at 285 points so this coming July 27 I need to place at least in the Top 4 to take the No. 1 place for the Veterans Class," he said.

Speaking of Alvarez, the Expert Class leader is 21 points behind Celis in the Veterans Class with 264

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JOSEPH SHIN

Dave Celis rides his 2021 Yamaha YZ250F to victory in the Veterans Class of the Marianas Racing Association's 2021 Point Series Race last Sunday at the CowTown Raceway Park in Marpi.

Aside from July 10, the Saipan Swim Club will also hold qualifying open water swims on July 24 and Sept. 25. The three qualifiers are sanctioned by the Northern Mariana Islands Swimming

Federation and are collectively called the Triple Crown Open Water Swim Series.

Kimura said the choice of Tenorio and Suzuki was easy to make.

"Juhn Tenorio and Jinnosuke

Suzuki have a lot of current CNMI age group records. After no more Marpi pool, we don't have swim meets here, but if we have a swim meet, these both high-level swimmers would've broken a lot of CNMI record

without fail," he said.

Braxton and Litulumar, meanwhile, are up-and-coming swimmers that Kimura

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## Volunteer photographer bids Saipan adieu

By MARK RABAGO  
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

A familiar fixture in many island sports events these past couple of years is Joseph Chin. The 59-year-old, however, is not an athlete nor is he part of any sports organization or the media.

With his trusty camera, Chin is there as a volunteer photographer to cover sports events that range from the early morning starts of Run Saipan's monthly 5Ks or the half-day affairs of Marianas Racing Association's races at the dirt track at CowTown Raceway Park in Marpi.

As a volunteer photographer, Chin doesn't only share his precious snapshots to the local newspapers, but also posts them on Facebook for everyone to enjoy.

"I take photography as my hobby. I like to take action photos. Saipan is just nice for



FACEBOOK

Saipan's No. 1 volunteer photographer Joseph Chin during one of his many hikes on his adopted Saipan.

sport events like cycling, running, swimming, kite surfing, and all water sports. Especially now as the COVID-19

pandemic attacks, I used this (photography) to pass my time. Saipan is so beautiful," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

Chin will bid Saipan adieu this morning after making the island his second home since November 2015. But before he leaves, people who were touched by his dedication to his chosen hobby and his willingness to share his talent took time to extend send-off messages to their favorite shutterbug.

Run Saipan's Edward Dela Cruz said Chin is not only an amazing photographer but an amazing person.

"He is irreplaceable. On behalf of our running club—Run Saipan—we thank you Joe. Thank you so much for documenting and creating such wonderful memories for our runners. Sports photography is ridiculously hard. It's hard to take photos of moving people let alone hundreds of them during a race and trying to get every single runner. If

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